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ARAB TIMES

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THE WORLD THIS MORNING

Candidate killed
DHAKA, (AP): A candidate, Mushtaq Hasan, in next week's parliamentary election was fatally shot at a campaign meeting in the southern city of Jessore, police said yesterday.

Senator 'arrested'
WASHINGTON, (Reuters): Police forced their way into Senator Bob Packwood's office and carried him onto the floor of the Senate during the night for a quorum call in the chamber's first round-the-clock "filibuster" in a decade.

Polls plan
DHAKA, (Reuters): Bangladesh President Hossain Mohammad Ershad met top military commanders yesterday and discussed plans to thwart opposition attempts to disrupt parliamentary elections on March 3.

TV satellite
BONN, (Reuters): West Germany's final attempt to save its crippled TV-Sat 1 broadcasting satellite failed yesterday, and officials said Bonn was writing off the project.

Car bomb kills three in Beirut

BEIRUT, Feb. 24, (Reuters): A powerful bomb concealed in a taxi killed three people when it exploded in a crowded residential area of West Beirut today, witnesses said.

Explosives packed in the rear of a Mercedes went off near an Iraqi bank and the Greek embassy, covering the street with pools of blood, twisted metal and shattered glass.

The taxi driver, a woman passenger and a vegetable seller in a nearby shop died in the blast, which tore the back from the charred vehicle.

Civil defence rescuers said three people were also injured.

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آج کے اردو صفحات میں
○ قوم سے اعلیٰ حضرت ولی عہد
○ کالی وی خطاب
○ شہزادہ مشرق وسطیٰ آمد
○ مقبوضہ علاقوں میں زبردست خفا
○ بنگلہ دیش میں ایک انتخابی
○ امیدوار کو گولی مار دی گئی
○ پاکستان میں انتخابات کب
○ ہوں گے اشراف شاہ کا تجزیہ
○ قلم مطلبہ اور کت کی
○ سرگرمیاں
○ یوسفیات

WEATHER

PARTLY cloudy weather with light to moderate northeasterly wind. State of sea: slight to moderate. High water: 4.00 am, 5.00 pm. Low water: 11.30 am, 10.30 pm. Sunrise: 6.19 am. Sunset: 5.44 pm. Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 22°C/72°F. Faisal: 18°C/64°F. Bahrain: 18°C/64°F. Minimum temperature expected: Kuwait: 21°C/70°F. Faisal: 18°C/64°F. Bahrain: 18°C/64°F. Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 75 per cent. Faisal: 75 per cent. Bahrain: 75 per cent. Maximum humidity expected: Kuwait: 50 per cent. Faisal: 50 per cent. Bahrain: 50 per cent.

Be informed of the latest news from the Arab world and the Middle East. The Arab Times is the only newspaper in the region to provide comprehensive coverage of the Arab world and the Middle East.

Unity needed to protect the nation: Sheikh Saad

HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah has called upon the Kuwaiti people for more cooperation, cohesion and unity to defend and protect the country.

In a televised address marking the 27th anniversary of Kuwait's National Day, Sheikh Saad said last night that the 18 months since the formation of the present government had been fraught with challenges and grave events at all levels.

But he added that the government did its best to face these circumstances and save the country from grave dangers.

The Premier emphasised that the present government is seeking cooperation from the public, each within his or her field of work, to continue the march towards a more prosperous future.

He particularly stressed the role of expatriates, who he said share with Kuwaitis the prosperity and difficulties.

He advised people to be tolerant and show understanding towards others' viewpoints, and stressed that Kuwait's national interests should be the top consideration.

Warned

Sheikh Saad warned against malice and sedition, and pointed out that allegiance to Kuwait and dedicated work are the only measures of patriotism.

Sheikh Saad called on the nation to follow the footsteps of the forefathers who confronted hardships with determination and unity.

"Our forefathers did not cave in to threats or blackmail, did not fear challenges, nor did they fear death in the service and defence of Kuwait. They rushed to meet the aggressor and beat him back," the Crown Prince added.

He said that Kuwaiti security forces have shouldered their responsibilities efficiently in guarding the stability, security and safety of citizens.

High on the government's priorities list, Sheikh Saad went on, has been the task of beefing up national defences in order to repulse any external aggression aimed at affecting its security and the very existence.

Iranian attitude on Gulf war 'shifts'

GENEVA, Feb. 24, (Agencies): There had been a very discreet but clear change in Iranian attitudes towards the Gulf conflict, with Tehran now showing signs of having renounced the objective of a military victory in favour of a negotiated settlement, according to a Swiss newspaper analysis today.

The Lausanne paper 24 Heures said that there were a number of signs on the diplomatic level which indicated that such a change had occurred.

Modalities

Iranian diplomats, while continuing to maintain all their traditional demands, had changed their order of priorities in order to facilitate the opening of negotiations, it claimed.

At the same time Iranian diplomats had become increasingly interested in the modalities of the implementation of a ceasefire, while insisting at the same time that this was just one of the important steps toward negotiations, and not the only one as was understood from the English text of resolution 598.

However, by contrast Iran continued to be intransigent over a clear definition of who was responsible for the conflict, it went on.

On the military front Iran had refrained from any major or spectacular operations since late last year.

Meanwhile, British envoy David Mellor held talks today in



Sheikh Saad: call to work diligently

Shultz to visit Syria

DAMASCUS, Feb. 24, (Agencies): US Secretary of State George Shultz will visit Damascus for several hours on Saturday as part of a tour of Middle East capitals to promote Arab-Israeli peace, a Syrian source said today.

The source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Shultz will fly to Damascus on Saturday around lunchtime and depart in the evening.

The American Secretary of State will be accompanied by Richard Murphy, his assistant on Near Eastern affairs, he said. He gave no other details.

Purpose

US officials said on Friday in Washington that Shultz probably would visit Syria, the Soviet Union's main Arab ally, during his Middle East tour that begins today with a trip to Jerusalem. He is also to visit Jordan and Egypt.

The US officials said the purpose of the Damascus visit would be to discuss the US drive for Arab-Israeli negotiations with President Hafez Al Assad, whose support for any long-term settlement in the Middle East is considered essential by specialists at the State Department's Near East bureau.

US officials said on Friday in Washington that Shultz probably would visit Syria, the Soviet Union's main Arab ally, during his Middle East tour that begins today with a trip to Jerusalem. He is also to visit Jordan and Egypt.

First snow in Syria in 50 years

DAMASCUS, Feb. 24, (Reuters): The first snow in 50 years fell on some areas of the Syrian desert today as blizzards disrupted life in Syria, Lebanon and Jordan.

A 10-hour snowfall hit Damascus and officials said Air Force helicopters were dropping food and medical supplies to towns and villages cut off by snow over 50 cm (20 inches) deep.

In northern and central Jordan, a second consecutive day of freezing storms forced schools and businesses to close and many roads were blocked by snow drifts.

In other parts of the country, hundreds of homes were flooded after heavy rains, police said.

Strike paralyzes occupied areas

Palestinians lynch Arab collaborator

TEL AVIV, Feb. 24, (Agencies): Palestinians lynched an Arab suspected of collaborating with Israeli authorities today after he shot dead a four-year-old boy and wounded 13 people who attacked his home, police sources said.

The incident occurred in the northern West Bank village of Khabatiye, near Jenin, as Palestinians throughout the Israeli-occupied territories observed an almost total general strike in protest at tomorrow's visit by US Secretary of State George Shultz.

Licensed

The sources said Mohamed Al Ayad opened fire with an Israeli-licensed Uzi machine gun when villagers set his house on fire. He was taken out and hanged from an electricity pylon with a Palestinian flag, they said.

The Palestine Press Service (PPS) said Ayad was "recognised as an Israeli spy."

Israeli security sources said only a handful of Palestinians who cooperated with the authorities were licensed to carry automatic weapons for their own protection.

Palestinian sources said villagers evacuated the man's mother, wife and children from his house before setting it alight with petrol bombs.

His severely burned body was left to hang from the pylon for several hours, they said.

It was the first time in the 11-week-old uprising in the occupied territories that Palestinians have attacked a suspected collaborator. A Palestinian radio station broadcasting from Damascus and officials said Air Force helicopters were dropping food and medical supplies to towns and villages cut off by snow over 50 cm (20 inches) deep.

In northern and central Jordan, a second consecutive day of freezing storms forced schools and businesses to close and many roads were blocked by snow drifts.

In other parts of the country, hundreds of homes were flooded after heavy rains, police said.

Elsewhere in the occupied territories, Israeli troops shot and wounded four Palestinians

The Arab Times extends its congratulations to HH the Amir, HH the Crown Prince and Premier, the government, and the people of Kuwait on the occasion of Kuwait's National Day.

Kuwait celebrates National Day

HH the Amir yesterday received a cable of congratulations from HH the Crown Prince and Premier on the occasion of Kuwait's 27th National Day.

The Amir also received congratulatory cables from kings and presidents of different countries.

Kuwait will today celebrate the National Day with much fanfare and gaiety and determination to stay on course with its policies and stands on different issues.

Quiet

Kuwait is celebrating amid a rare winter quiet on the nearby Iran-Iraq warfront.

"The heat is off, at least for the moment. Kuwait is breathing easier now than it has for some time," said a senior Western diplomat.

Shipping sources say that of the 13 Iranian attacks on neutral shipping this year, only two hit ships bound to or from Kuwait.

By contrast, one-third of Iran's 31 attacks on Gulf shipping in the last quarter of 1987 were Kuwaiti-linked. No Kuwaiti-owned vessel has been attacked since November.

Amnesty

As part of National Day celebrations 218 prisoners were released yesterday by an Amiri general amnesty.

The amnesty also included the reduction of prison terms for 474 prisoners.

Of the released prisoners 102 are Kuwaitis and 116 non-Kuwaitis.

Meanwhile, an official Interior Ministry source reminded the public that car processions are banned in celebration of the National Day. The source added that people violating this decision would have their licences withdrawn and their cars may be impounded for as long as two months.



Prisoners being released.

Eccentric Charles bans hairspray

LONDON, Feb. 24, (UPI): Prince Charles said he banned the use of hairspray from his palaces to protect the environment — apparently to his wife's chagrin — and proclaimed he could never go to Dublin because "they might blow me up."

In a moment of unusual candour, the heir to the British throne told a Dublin woman during a visit yesterday to a factory that he would "love" to see her city "but I can't". British newspapers reported today.

"They might blow me up or something," he reportedly said.

"I personally as I became older and more autocratic have banned the use of aerosols in my household," he said to applause and laughter. "Trouble still remains in finding adequate and good enough alternatives to hair spray as I'm sure all husbands will find."

Charles has confessed to growing eccentric as he became older and talking to his plants — statements that have prompted British tabloids to say he is mismatched with 26-year-old Diana, a lively woman who likes nothing better than to dance the night away to pop music.

A strange bullet therapy

NEW YORK, Feb. 24, (AP): A depressed young man unable to control a compulsion to keep washing his hands put a .22-calibre rifle in his mouth, pulled the trigger, and survived with his compulsion cured.

"His I.Q. did not change. There was no change personality-wise. He did not become an automaton. His symptoms are gone," said his doctor, Leslie Solyom, a psychiatrist at Shaughnessy hospital in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

The man, identified only as George, suffered from the psychiatric ailment known as obsessive-compulsive disorder.

Check

George washed his hands as often as 50 times a day. He would take four-hour showers, and he would check and re-check to see whether doors and windows were locked and whether he had enough money in his wallet.

George was nearly 18 when he fired the bullet into his brain. "He was found lying on his face, blood oozing from his nostrils," Solyom said. He was rushed to Vancouver General Hospital, treated for three weeks and sent to Shaughnessy hospital in Vancouver, where Solyom practices.

Activities of 17 organisations banned

S.Africa clamps down on anti-apartheid groups

JOHANNESBURG, Feb. 24, (Reuters): South Africa's white rulers virtually outlawed the black opposition today by banning the activities of 17 leading anti-apartheid organisations and cracking down on a black trade union groups.

The ban, imposed through new emergency regulations, prompted black Archbishop Desmond Tutu, a winner of the Nobel peace prize, to declare: "We are heading for war."

The 17 anti-apartheid organisations include the three million-member United Democratic Front (UDF) and the Azanian

People's Organisation, a black consciousness movement.

Among the others are the Detainees' Parents Support Committee, which monitors political detentions, and the Release Mandela campaign.

Regulations

Although the 17 organisations themselves were not outlawed, in the words of an official at the Ministry of Law and Order the prohibitions mean "they can do damn all from now on."

The emergency regulations, the latest in a 20-month-old crackdown, also barred the black trade union federation, the Con-

gress of South Africa Trade Unions (Cosatu), from politics.

Announcing the restrictions, Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok said the government was determined to "end the revolutionary climate."

Black leaders and human rights lawyers were outraged at the move.

"The government's idea is to smash effective political opposition, no matter how peaceful, and to rule with the jackboot ... we are heading for war," Tutu, head of the Anglican Church in Southern Africa, told reporters in Cape Town.

Since declaring a state of emergency in June 1986 to curb black unrest, the government has detained more than 25,000 people without trial for varying periods and imposed unprecedented press restrictions.

The new regulations, promulgated in the government gazette, ban the 17 organisations from any activity which does not have the authorities' prior approval and confines Cosatu to bread-and-butter labour regulations.

Lawyers said they fell just short of the outright ban on the African National Congress guerrilla movement in

1960. Vlok said the 17 organisations would be allowed to keep their assets and perform administrative functions.

Warned

Word of the crackdown spread rapidly through Soweto, South Africa's biggest black township south of Johannesburg.

Black and coloured (mixed race) leaders warned however there would be backlash when the news sunk in.

Political commentators linked the ban with two white parliamentary by-elections next week.

Amal may not use force to free Higgins

BEIRUT, Feb 24, (Reuters): Lebanon's Amal militia knows who is holding US hostage William Higgins and where the kidnappers are, but does not want to use force to free him, Muslim political sources said today.

"Amal knows exactly the party that kidnapped the American and where the kidnappers are but is hesitant to use force to free him because it does not want to start an inter-Shi'ite feud or to go into battle with Iran's allies," said one source.

"Amal has all the information but the decision to use force is a political and not a security one," another source said.

Amal refused to identify who was behind the abduction.

Higgins, head of the Lebanon unit of the UN Truce Supervision Organisation (Untso), was kidnapped by three bearded gunmen on Feb 17 near the port city of Tyre.

Amal military official in Tyre, Daoud Daoud, said the militia the same day had arrested two men who took part in the kidnapping and a third carrying a message to Higgins' captors to move him from South Lebanon, where he was abducted, to Beirut.

A Muslim security source told Reuters the message was sent by a pro-Iranian cleric in Beirut but refused to name him.

"UN Undersecretary-General Marrack Goulding arrived at the UN headquarters in the southern town of Naqoura today for talks on efforts to release Higgins," said UN spokesman Timur Goksel.

He told Reuters that Goulding, who arrived from Cairo, was holding talks with UN officers "to obtain information on the latest efforts to release Higgins."

Goksel, spokesman for the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (Unifil), said Amal told Unifil of the arrest of the three but the UN did not ask to see the detainees "because they are in an area outside UN operations."

Amal militiamen have joined Unifil troops in the hunt for the 43-year-old Higgins and Daoud said the Shi'ite militia was trying to find the leader of the kidnappers.

"There are strong beliefs the leader has escaped to Beirut," one security source said.

Soviets to remove nuclear missiles from E. Germany

EAST BERLIN, Feb 24, (Reuters): Soviet troops will start withdrawing nuclear missiles from two bases at opposite ends of East Germany tomorrow, before the treaty scrapping them is ratified, the East German Foreign Ministry said.

Announcing the move today, spokesman Wolfgang Meyer said it was meant to create favourable conditions for the US-Soviet Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty to be implemented and was aimed at boosting East-West confidence.

A similar Western gesture was now expected, he said.

"The announced withdrawal will begin tomorrow," Meyer said in a statement published on the front pages of East German newspapers and made available to reporters.

Moscow's elite rocket forces, among 380,000 Soviet troops based in East Germany, will begin leaving by train tomorrow from Waren in the north and

Bischofswerda in the south with a first group of shorter-range SS-12 missiles.

Stockpile

According to the treaty memorandum, there are 22 SS-12s at Waren, a lakeside town, and eight at Bischofswerda near Dresden. Both bases have training rockets and mobile launchers.

Moscow says the SS-12s will be kept at destruction sites deep in the Soviet Union until the treaty is ratified. Moscow has 54 SS-12s at four East German bases and 53 SS-23s at two others. There are 39 SS-12s in Czechoslovakia, the only other Warsaw Pact ally where nuclear forces are stationed.

The superpowers signed the INF agreement eliminating 2,611 land-based missiles in December, but both have yet to ratify the deal. The US Senate is expected to vote on it in the spring and Moscow is likely to do the same about that time.

Meyer said the decision to

remove the rockets early was "connected with the expectation that it would cause also the other side to take steps conducive to a speedy coming into force of the treaty."

The United States has medium-range cruise and Pershing-2 missiles based in four West European countries.

Pressure

Western diplomats said the Soviet decision was a goodwill gesture but was also designed to put pressure on Washington.

Foreign journalists have been invited to watch the soldiers and missiles depart from the railway stations, but not to visit the bases where the missiles have been since 1983.

Moscow said at the time it was forced to deploy the rockets as a counter-measure to the US stationing of missiles in NATO countries. Washington argued its deployment of those weapons was to compensate for Soviet SS-20s aimed at Western Europe.

The last time Soviet forces

withdrew from East Germany was in 1979 and 1980 when then-Kremlin leader Leonid Brezhnev removed 20,000 soldiers and 1,000 tanks. Moscow said the move was to underline its desire from disarmament and détente.

Meyer said Thursday's withdrawal "was renewed evidence of the constructive peace policy of the Soviet Union, East Germany and the other socialist states."

Czechoslovakia

The Soviet Union will also start removing its intermediate-range nuclear missiles from Czechoslovakia in the next few days, the Communist Party daily newspaper Rude Pravo said today.

Word that Soviet missiles will be removed from Czechoslovakia coincided with national celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the Communist takeover in Prague.

It was presented by Rude Pravo as a significant gesture by the Kremlin.



President Chun pays tribute to unknown soldiers killed in the Korean war at the national cemetery in Seoul as his wife Lee Soon-Ja watches. (Reuters wirephoto).

Violence in Seoul as Chun says farewell

SEOUL, Feb 24, (Reuters): Thousands of radical students fought police in central Seoul today night as President Chun Doo Hwan bade farewell to South Koreans before heading over power on Thursday to former Army colleague Roh Tae-Woo.

The students, shouting slogans denouncing Chun, Roh and what they called US support for military dictatorship, massed in front of the Catholic Cathedral and then tried to take to the streets.

The large force of riot police standing by opened up with volleys of tear gas, witnesses said. Reports spoke of running battles with students raining rocks and petrol bombs on police ranks.

Earlier a bandful of students briefly occupied the American cultural centre in central Seoul before being dislodged by police who broke in through a back door.

The country's 140,000 police were on an emergency footing.

with orders to guard their arsenals against possible radical attempts to seize weapons for violent protests, a police spokesman said.

Hardline students and the National Coalition for Democracy, a major dissident grouping, called the protest to defy Roh, who won power last December with 37 per cent of the poll after what the opposition claimed widespread ballot fraud.

Two rival opposition candidates totalled 55 per cent of the vote.

Ex-general Roh, 55, is due to take the oath of office Thursday morning at a grandiose ceremony outside the National Assembly in southern Seoul.

At a farewell banquet at a Seoul hotel this evening Chun, who took power in a 1979 military coup after Park Chung-Hee's assassination, told the nation he did not seek the presidency and was proud to be the first South Korean leader to hand over the reins to an elected successor.

Arafat remarks spark protest

GENEVA, Feb 24, (AP): The Geneva Association of United Nations Correspondents today formally protested remarks by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, who questioned the professional integrity of a member of the association.

Arafat, speaking for the first time at a meeting of the UN Human Rights Commission last Friday, had likened Israeli practices in the occupied territories to the Nazi extermination cam-

paign.

At a news conference, the correspondent of a West Berlin left-wing newspaper, Tageszeitung, asked him whether he thought such comparisons were helpful in the search for a Middle East peace settlement.

Arafat reacted heatedly, asking the reporter, Andreas Zumach, whether he was "commissioned by the Israeli government" to ask the question.

'Unity needed to protect the nation'

(Continued from Page 1)

In his speech, the Crown Prince addressed current Arab and international issues, saying Kuwait has been maintaining contact with the members of the GCC to stop the Iran-Iraq war.

The conflict, Sheikh Saad noted, has been a source of distress and tragedy to Arabs and Muslims alike, and has distracted Iran and Iraq from confronting their real enemy.

Uprising

He pledged Kuwait will strive for Arab unity and continue to support the Palestinian cause, particularly the current uprising against the Israeli occupation, until the Palestinians regain their national rights.

Sheikh Saad expressed satisfaction over progress of the GCC.

Turning to Arab affairs, he pledged full backing for Arab solidarity.

Sheikh Saad praised the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied Arab lands and declared Kuwait's all-out support until the Palestinian people restore their legitimate national rights.

Stability

On the Lebanese crisis, the Premier said that Kuwait would work with other Arab states to re-establish security, peace and stability in Lebanon.

Kuwait, which is the current chairman of the Organisation of Islamic Conference, will also boost Islamic solidarity and pursue a clear non-aligned course that steers the world away from wars and destruction. Sheikh Saad added.

The Premier emphasised that Kuwait extends its love, peace and friendship to all those seeking to co-exist harmoniously with it.

Concluding, Sheikh Saad expressed hope that the Almighty God would protect Kuwait under the prudent leadership of HH the Amir.

Test-tube baby

Ankara, (Reuters): Turkey plans to set up its first test-tube baby unit in May at Ankara's Grand Maternity Hospital, the Anatolian news agency reported yesterday.

Afghan mujahedeen recognise Geneva talks

Rebels insist on Islamic coalition

ISLAMABAD, Feb 24, (Agencies): Afghan rebels vow they will not lay down their arms until an Islamic coalition cabinet replaces the communist government of President Najib in Kabul.

The seven-party Afghan rebel group Islamic Unity announced its plan for the formation of a new government yesterday in a statement telefaxed from the Pakistani border city of Peshawar.

"Until we have established an Islamic government, we will never lay down our arms," Yunis Khalis, leader of the resistance alliance, said in a separate statement yesterday.

The breakthrough proposal approved by the seven-party resistance alliance called for a 28-member interim government that would include seven officials from the Soviet-backed regime currently serving in Kabul. The rebels had previously rejected any power-sharing plan with the current government.

The resistance leaders also recognised for the first time the

legitimacy of the Soviet withdrawal talks in Geneva, and they singled out Moscow in an appeal to nations to "participate generously" in post-war reconstruction.

The compromise plan came on the eve of a visit to Islamabad today by US Undersecretary of State Michael Armacost, who arrived for talks with Pakistani officials about the Geneva negotiations.

Armacost told reporters on arrival he would brief Pakistani leaders on this week's US-Soviet talks in Moscow on the Afghan conflict.

He arrived shortly after the main Pakistan-based rebel alliance announced the blueprint for a transitional government.

Positive

A Pakistani Foreign Ministry spokesman described the announcement as a positive step. But Western diplomats said the rebels had probably been less accommodating to their enemies

than Pakistan would have liked.

"I see it as an opening bid," one Western diplomat commented. "Whether there's any more flexibility behind it remains to be seen."

The rebel stance is central to Pakistan's efforts to negotiate formation of a broad-based transitional government before any pact on the withdrawal of Soviet troops is signed.

The Soviet Union and its allies in Kabul have refused to discuss the matter, saying it is for Afghans alone to decide.

Najib reacted to the rebel plan by saying that formation of a government after an anticipated Soviet troop withdrawal was an internal affair for "Afghans alone."

Meanwhile, Western diplomatic sources said Muslim guerrillas have stepped up attacks in Kabul, where communist officials and Soviet advisers reportedly are preparing to leave.

Police rescue Bangladeshi women

DHAKA, Feb 24, (Reuters): Bangladeshi security forces, in raids along the Indian border, rescued nearly 60 women and children being sold to brothels and for organ transplants, police said today.

Border guards and police in the past three days stopped Bangladeshi women and children from being taken into India and arrested five members of what police said was an international trafficking ring.

One of those arrested, Rasheda Begum, a 35-year-old Bangladeshi, told police most of the children, each to be sold in India for about \$60, would be killed and their kidneys sold for transplants, they said.

The young women, lured with promises of non-existent jobs, would be sold to brothel operators in India, Pakistan and the Middle East for about \$30 each, she said.

Two other Bangladeshis and two Indians also were arrested, police said.

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*** ONLY AT SALMIYA AND SALWA**

Envoys praise Kuwait's achievements

A NUMBER of Arab and foreign ambassadors in Kuwait were interviewed by the Seyassah newspaper on the occasion of the 27th anniversary of Kuwait's National Day.

Bahrain's Ambassador, Abdul Aziz Abu Ali, said Kuwait had made good progress in the political field as a result of the wise policy of its leadership.

He said Kuwait was playing an effective role at the international level and through international organisations, particularly towards issues of peace and stability in the world in general and the Middle East and Gulf areas in particular.

He praised the bilateral relations between the two countries.

The UAE Ambassador, Yusuf Al Serkal, said Kuwait was a pioneer in the region and all Gulf countries had benefitted from the Kuwaiti experiments in the legal and other fields.

He praised Kuwait's achievements in different fields and said it was one of the countries that played a significant role in international organisations.

Iraq's Ambassador, Assem Yacoub Yousuf, said Kuwait was exemplary in commitment to fraternal relations, Arabism and national principles at a time when nations were in need of Kuwait's methods.

He said that Kuwait never missed its duties towards other Arab countries and was always a part-

ner in Arab issues. Jordan's Ambassador, Nabil Al Talhouni, said Jordan was proud of Kuwait's role at Arab and international levels, adding that Kuwait made every effort of Arab issues. He referred to Kuwait's role in healing Arab rifts through its contribution to Arab summits in general and to the Amman summit last year in particular.

Moral position

Syria's Ambassador, Dr Issa Darwish, said that Kuwait had obtained a substantial moral position in the world political and economic map within a quarter of a century. He added that Kuwait had great achievements in a short period at all levels.

He said Kuwait was an active member of the Arab League and played a significant role in settlement of Arab conflicts.

He praised the bilateral relations between Syria and Kuwait. The United States Ambassador, Nathaniel Howell, said that support for the independence, security and well-being of Kuwait has been a consistent policy of the US, which was among the first to recognise Kuwait's independence and support its membership in the UN.

He said he was both impressed and pleased to note that since 1955 thousands of Kuwaiti youths had pursued educational opportunities in the US.

He said he shared Kuwait's satisfaction and pride in celebrating the 27th anniversary of its National Day.

The United Kingdom Ambassador, Peter Hinchcliffe, said he was a great admirer of Kuwait's achievements since independence. In foreign policy matters, Kuwait's voice was now listened to and respected worldwide, and a measure of the success of its policy was the degree of stability and prosperity Kuwait has maintained in an often dangerous and unpredictable region of the world.

Britain's relations with Kuwait were excellent and the links went back well before independence, he said.

Japan's Ambassador, Tadakiyo Nomura, said that Kuwait was enjoying the achievements of 27 years of independence and progress and hoped that Kuwait, as a peace-loving country would continue to prosper.

Non-aligned

With Japan and Kuwait at opposite ends of the "Silk Road", there was a long history of commercial and economic exchange between the two countries, he said.

He added that Kuwait was one of Japan's important trade partners, and both countries had excellent bilateral relations in the political and economic fields, but there was much room for more cooperation in the cultural field. China's Ambassador, Guan

Zihui, said that Kuwait was following a non-aligned policy to protect international peace and to support people struggling for freedom.

He praised the bilateral relations between his country and Kuwait, saying it was based on fruitful cooperation and deep friendship since political relations were established in 1971.

He said his country was keen to develop economic cooperation and investments with Kuwait.

Agreement

The Charge d'Affaires at the Philippines Embassy, Fortunato D Oblena, said that Kuwait-Philippine diplomatic relations took a turn in 1987 with the appointment of Alunan C. Glang, a Muslim scholar, as the Philippines Ambassador to Kuwait, and the appointment of Hasan Al Dabbagh as Kuwait's Ambassador to the Philippines.

He said that relations expanded through the years and now covered diplomatic, cultural, trade, economic, labour and scientific fields.

There was now an on-going process for the negotiations of a technical, cultural and scientific agreement between the Philippines and Kuwait.

He said the embassy had spearheaded the setting up of the first Kuwait-Philippine Economic Council whose members would be reputable business leaders of both countries.

Cadets suffer food poisoning

ONE hundred and twenty cadets at the Police College suffered from food poisoning after eating contaminated food at the college restaurant early this month, a local newspaper reported on Monday.

It added this was the second incident in five months.

A team from the Public Health Ministry investigated the case, and the results showed that the meal, which consisted of okra, rice, salad, soft drinks and sweets, was contaminated by workers who were carrying the salmonella microbe.

US seamen free whale trapped in fishing nets in Arabian Sea

MANAMA, Feb 24, (AP): Sailors from an American missile cruiser risked their lives in a dramatic, three-hour operation to free a 30-ton sperm whale tangled in fishing nets in the Arabian Sea, US officials said yesterday.

At one point, Navy Lt Junior Grade James M. Syvertsen, of Wading River, New York, rode the back of the 40-foot (12-metre) mammal like "something out of a rodeo" while cutting the nylon cords, according to a Navy news release issued here.

He was one of four divers who went into the water to cut the tangled nets loose in the dangerous and exhausting operation on Sunday.

Rewarding

In the end, the female whale was freed and swam off, with one last piece of line dangling "like dental floss" between its teeth, according to the Truxton's skipper, Capt Clinton J. Coneway. "Through the ordeal the whale made no attempts to harm the swimmers. It seemed that she

knew they were trying to help," said Coneway. "All in all it was a most unusual and rewarding way to spend a Sunday afternoon. Jacques Cousteau would be proud."

The rescue occurred after a helicopter from the nuclear carrier Enterprise spotted the female whale floating listlessly in the ocean while on routine patrol. It dropped smoke flares to mark the spot for the Truxton, which was 30 miles (48 kilometres) away.

The two ships are part of a US battle group which arrived in the Arabian Sea earlier this month to support naval operations in the Gulf.

Replaced

The helicopter crewmen said they thought at first that the whale was dead, but they saw water spouting from its blowhole. "According to petty officer James Cox, a rescue specialist aboard the helicopter, Rear Admiral Guy Zeller, commander of the Enterprise's escort group, ordered the Truxton to the scene.

Its crew used grappling hooks to pull the tired animal next to the ship and try to haul in the net, which officials estimated at about 400 feet (120 metres). Meanwhile, Boatswain's mate Curtis Michitsch, of Reno, Nevada, was lowered in a sling to cut the nets.

When he became exhausted, he was replaced by seaman Gerald Samples, of Wilbur, Nebraska.

Relieved

Although they appeared to have nearly freed the whale, which swam a short distance away, Coneway said he feared the animal still might not survive the remaining nets and dispatched a whaleboat with more crewmen and volunteer swimmers to overtake it.

Syvertsen, one of the two volunteers, at one point became entangled in the net himself for about 15 minutes, and finally was relieved by seaman Adam Weber, a rescue swimmer from Portland, Maine, who finished the task.

Coneway said he doubted at first that his sailors would be able to free the whale from the "tangled mess," but "I completely underestimated the ingenuity, perseverance and courage of Truxton's swimmers and deck force."

Children's health project

DR RASHED AL RUSHOUD, the Assistant Secretary General of the Council of Health Ministers of Arab Gulf states and director of Ibn Sina Hospital, left for Riyadh recently to take part in meetings of the technical committee of the Arab Gulf states children's health project.

Dr Rushoud said the committee will review the various stages of the projects in the seven Arab Gulf states and discuss future steps to be taken.

The project began its implementation in Kuwait last year and the final results are expected this year, and should provide information regarding the health standards of Gulf children, including their vaccination, nutrition and housing status.



HH the Amir yesterday received the Crown Prince of Bahrain, Sheikh Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa (left).

Sheikh Hamad ends visit

BAHRAINI Crown Prince and General Commander of the Bahrain Defence Force, Sheikh Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa left Kuwait yesterday following a few hours visit.

He was seen off by HH the Crown Prince and Premier, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah as well as Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Saad Al Ahmad, Defence Minister and acting Interior Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmad, State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashed, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saoud Al Osaime, State Minister for Housing Affairs, Nasser Abdullah Al Roudhan and the Bahraini Ambassador to Kuwait in addition to a number of senior officials in the premier-ship and foreign ministry.

Consultations

Sheikh Hamad delivered a pre-departure statement saying that he was honoured to meet HH the Amir for a discussion of issues of common interest, bilateral relations and means of enhancing them in various spheres amidst current circumstances and Gulf developments.

He added the discussions with Crown Prince and Premier

Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah tackled issues of concern to both sisterly countries in line with constant consultations among officials in the Gulf Cooperation Council.

He noted that such contacts target attaining a clear vision and united stands over questions of interest to Arab world in general and to the region in particular.

Sheikh Hamad praised hospitality accorded to him by Kuwaiti leaders and wished the country all progress, security and stability under its wise leadership.

The Bahraini Crown Prince arrived here earlier yesterday to congratulate Kuwait on its 27th National Day.

Banquet

Earlier Sheikh Saad hosted a lunch banquet in Al Salam Palace in honour of the visiting Bahraini Crown Prince.

The banquet was attended by Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, Defence and acting Interior Minister, State Minister for Cabinet Affairs, State Minister for Foreign Affairs and State Minister for Housing Affairs in addition to members of the Bahraini guest's accompanying delegation.

GULF PRESS

Failure of US-Soviet talks

TWO United Arab Emirates English language dailies in their editorials expressed regret that the recent US-Soviet talks in Moscow failed to achieve much on regional issues, particularly the Middle East.

The Khaleej Times, published from Dubai said the talks between US Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet leaders in Moscow this week "revived hopes of a strategic arms reduction treaty being prepared but produced no major move on regional issues."

"While Moscow welcomed Shultz's imminent visit to the Middle East, it sounded doubtful about the latest US peace plan," the paper pointed out.

It said "at a time when both superpowers should be showing greater and genuine interest in resolving the Palestinian issue their ambivalence is regrettable."

"If Washington has presented a half-hearted peace formula Moscow has looked wanting in more, forcefully expressing its reservations to Shultz," it said.

The Gulf News, also Dubai-based, said though the latest meeting has confirmed as a "firm trend" the warning of superpower relations there had been no headway on the Middle East problem. "There is no prospect of an agreed superpower strategy emerging as yet" on the Middle East, it said.

"The Soviets welcomed Shultz's trip to the region in the next few days but said they were doubtful of the US plan succeeding," it noted.

Washington's policy criticised

UAE Arabic newspapers criticised Washington's policy and the recent US peace proposals on the eve of a Middle East tour by Secretary of State George Shultz.

"The US plan Shultz is carrying is designed to quench the fire of the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories," the Abu Dhabi-based Al Itihad said.

It said the uprising, in which at least 63 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli troops, forced the US to view the Palestinian cause as a priority issue.

"But these do not indicate any real change in the US policy which still is concerned about the Palestinian problem only out of its interest in Israel," it said.

It attacked the US proposals which included only self-rule "without any reference to Palestinian self-determination."

"Shultz is bringing with him old stuff in a new wrapping and is coming here only to bless Zionist repression against the Palestinians," it said.

The Dubai-based Al Bayan predicted failure of Shultz's mission. "The tour comes in itself all elements of failure because it is intended to promote proposals already rejected by the Arabs and Palestinians," it said.

"What Washington is offering is in essence not different from the Camp David accords and the US offer all developments and changes, is still referring to the Palestinians as refugees."

It stressed that, "peace, like land, is indivisible — either there is complete peace or there is none."

Heavy rain grips Bahrain

MANAMA, Feb 24, (AP): The central Gulf island state of Bahrain was gripped today by a rare spell of heavy rain, accompanied by thunder and lightning, a phenomenon that occurred once in a decade.

There had been rain showers since the beginning of February, but the intensity of today's downpour made it so dark that car drivers had to turn their headlights on in the early afternoon. Street lights also came on briefly.

Bahrain's meteorological department estimated that 50mm of rain have fallen so far

this year, double the amount recorded in the season last year. Bahrain has an average of 11 days rain.

Drivers urged to follow traffic rules

KUWAIT'S Road Safety Society has appealed to drivers, on the occasion of the National Day celebrations to follow traffic rules and to protect the lives of others on the road.

The society stated that abusing the rights of others while driving is rejected by Islam as well as other religions.



On the occasion of the Chinese New Year, the Singaporean chef of the Peacock Room at the SAS Kuwait Hotel created a wide array of traditional dishes to welcome the Year of the Dragon. The special menu will be available until March 2. Picture shows (from right to left), Chinese chef Ou Ah Pok, food and beverage manager Adrian Ort, restaurant receptionist Josefa Buaron, and maître d'hotel Peacock Room Dinesh Rodriguez.

Celebrate the Chinese New Year at the Chinese Restaurant.



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National Day celebrations

Thousands attend Red Palace festival

THOUSANDS of jubilant citizens packed the historic Red Palace in Jahra, in a popular Bedouin festival yesterday marking the 27th anniversary of Kuwait's National Day.

The festival, organised by the Information Ministry's Relics and Museums Department, was attended by Social Affairs and Labour Minister, head of the Supreme National Day Celebrations Committee Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed.

The Minister of Information, Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Sabah, the Minister of Education, Public Works, the State Minister for Municipal Affairs and Arab and Foreign ambassadors accredited to Kuwait attended the festival.

The function, lasting till next Saturday, is featuring a variety of

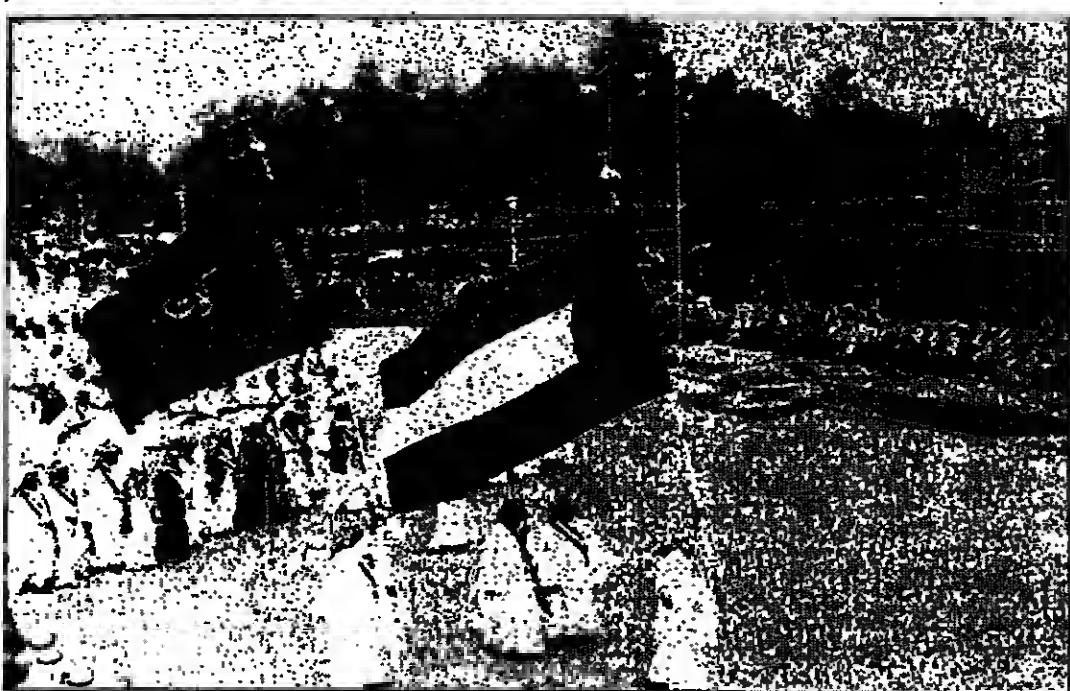
Kuwaiti folklore arts including old-style marriage, camel-riding and Bedouin travelling besides agricultural life in the good old days.

After seeing shows, which were performed by folklore troupes, ministers and the distinguished guests toured an exhibit of old rifles, handguns, swords and daggers in addition to agricultural instruments and a collection of sadu (old Bedouin hand-weaving).

Speaking to reporters, Sheikh Nasser expressed admiration and the festival's success and pointed out that castle-style red palace, built by the late Sheikh Mubarak Al Sabah in 1914, represents an important chain in the history of Kuwait as it helped beat back an invasion army in 1920.



The ministers look at grains exhibited at a stall.



A dance with Kuwait's old and new flags.

Antiquities department organises four festivals

IBRAHIM Al Baghli, the director of the Antiquities and Museum Department at Kuwait's Information Ministry and member of the Higher Committee for planning National Day celebrations said the department had organised four festivals for the National Day celebrations.

A folklore festival was held at the Red Fort in Jahra yesterday, with a number of national dances and an exhibition of Bedouin crafts displayed. The National Museum opened a week-long display of Kuwaiti traditional crafts yesterday and a national

festival to celebrate the return of Kuwaiti travellers will be held this morning. The festival re-enacts the way travellers were received after their trading trips.

On Friday morning a number of national folk groups will dance and play traditional instruments at the Old Safat Square. The Kuwait Army and Police Bands will also participate and a souk for traditional handicrafts and Bedouin crafts will be opened also, Baghli said.

Kuwait's popular cafes held a celebration yesterday to mark the 27th anniversary of Kuwait's National Day at the Sulaiman Al Shumaimeri Popular Cafe.

Participation

The Assistant Undersecretary of Kuwait's Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, Abdul Rahman Al Mazroui told reporters that the active participation of the citizens in the National Day events was evidence of the cooperation which existed between the government and the citizens and conveyed his best wishes to HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister on the occasion of National Day. He added that the popular cafes play an important social role providing recreational and social services.

Reception

ROME, Feb 24, (Kuna): The Kuwait Embassy in Italy celebrates today the 27th National Day of Kuwait and will host a reception party at the Rome Hilton.

The Kuwaiti Ambassador here Ahmad Gaith Abdullah has sent invitations to the Italian government officials, party leaders, journalists and Arab and foreign diplomatic missions to Italy.

The embassy is also scheduled to hold a Kuwait Culture Week early March.

Part of Fahaheel Motorway opened

AMID Kuwait's celebrations of the 27th National Day, Minister of Public Works, Abdul Rahman Al Houti yesterday opened the 27 km Fahaheel Motorway.

In a statement Al Houti delivered at the opening ceremony which took place at Messilah bridge, he said that three other bridges are under construction.

By the conclusion of this project about 70 per cent of the country's road network has been accomplished, Al Houti said, adding that 260 kilometres have been constructed so far, of the projected target of 360 kms.

The minister praised all government institutions that helped with great efforts to achieve this goal.

Efforts to expand health services praised

PUBLIC Health Minister Dr Abdul Razzak Al Abdul Razzak yesterday praised the government for exerting all possible efforts to expand health services in the country.

In a speech before the Public Health Ministry staff, Dr Abdul Razzak said, on the occasion of Kuwait's 27th National Day, that the government provided the health sector with latest medical equipment in order to improve and advance level of health services.

He indicated that the ministry will spare no effort to update medical services, adding that specialised centres for different diseases will be established.

Performance of ministry cadres, doctors, technicians and administrative officials will be improved through training, he added.

Rqobah opens control centre

KUWAIT'S Electricity and Water Minister Dr Homoud Al Rqobah patronised the opening of the auxiliary control centre in the capital area and the opening of the area's transformer station.

Dr Al Rqobah said that the centre would control operations at the main transformer stations, with a capacity of 300 kilovolts, 132 kilovolts and 33 kilovolts. He added that these stations are for the electrical network which extends between the southern part of Fourth Ring Road east of Ghazali Street and Gulf Street.

The centre began operation in mid-March of last year, with a computer system linked through a special communications circuit.

UAE, Morocco call for Mideast conference

ABU DHABI, Feb 24, (Reuters): The United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Morocco today called for an international conference on the Middle East after talks by their foreign ministers.

A statement issued after talks between Moroccan Minister Abdellatif Filali and the UAE's Rashid Abdullah also called for an end to the Iran-Iraq war.

Filali earlier visited Kuwait and was scheduled to go to Oman tomorrow.

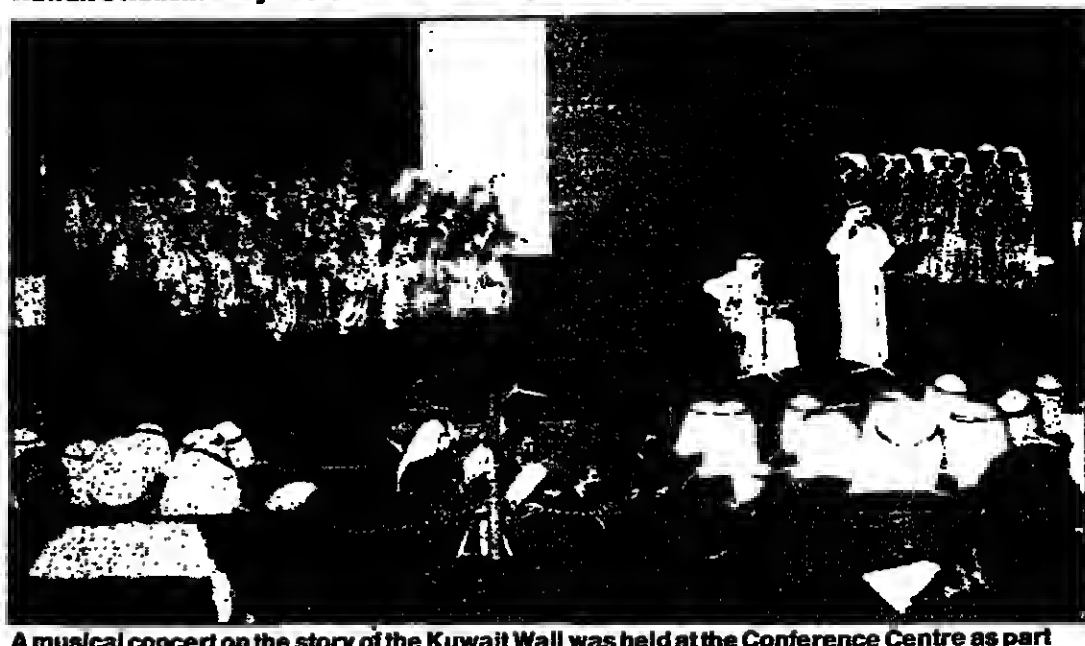
Taxi-driver injured in collision

A taxi-driver was rushed to hospital yesterday for treatment of injuries he sustained when his car overturned after crashing into a concrete barrier, and another man was injured when his car collided with two other cars.

There were 23 traffic accidents in Kuwait, with seven occurring in the capital governorate, one in Hawalli, ten in Ahmadi and five in Jahra.



HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah, yesterday hosted a dinner banquet at the Conference Centre on the occasion of the 27th anniversary of Kuwait's National Day. Sheikh Saad is seen greeting some of the large number of guests.



A musical concert on the story of the Kuwait Wall was held at the Conference Centre as part of the National Day celebrations. Picture shows a scene from the concert.

Bishara, Murphy discuss peace prospects in the Gulf

WASHINGTON, Feb 24, (Kuna): The Secretary General of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Abdullah Bishara met here today with Assistant Secretary of State for the Near East Richard Murphy to discuss peace prospects in the Gulf.

Bishara, who is here on a week-long visit to Washington, had discussed the same issue with Assistant Secretary of Defence Richard Armitage on Monday at the Pentagon in the presence of top defence department officials.

Ways of ending the eight-year-old war between Iraq and Iran, the adoption of a second resolution calling for an arms embargo against Iran, and the US naval escort operation in the Arabian Gulf are heading the agenda of talks that Bishara is holding with a wide spectrum of officials

within the Reagan administration.

Today he is due to address the US-Arab chamber of commerce and tomorrow he meets with National Security Adviser Colin Powell at the White House.

Bishara is also holding extensive talks with members of Congress in both the House and the Senate.

Naval presence

Meanwhile, Bishara has said that the US naval presence in the Gulf region has played "a major role" in the containment of Iran but he argued that it is time for the US to return to a low profile there.

Bishara told the Washington Post in an interview published today.

"I believe the American presence in the Gulf contributed to the containment of tension

and a reduction of Iranian adventures."

He said the Arab states believe the US has shown its resolve in the Gulf and that this had been "very important" for them.

He noted that the Gulf states were particularly apprehensive that an enlarged American military presence would lead to a serious clash with Iran and drag them into a confrontation as well. But Bishara made it clear those doubts have been dispelled now.

The Secretary General was quick to add, however, he believes it is better for the US not to expand its escort mission to include other ships, as some American tanker owners whose ships sail under other than the US flag are seeking, in order to avoid "complicating" matters politically and militarily.

GCC is an example to be followed: King Fahd

RIYADH, Feb 24, (Kuna): Saudi monarch King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz praised the Gulf Cooperation Council, saying it is an example to be followed by world countries due to the achievements it has accomplished in a short period of time.

He affirmed that the GCC states enjoy good relations with world countries based on mutual respect and joint interests.

King Fahd's statement came during his visit yesterday to the headquarters of the GCC Peninsula Shield Force Command in Hafr Al Baten, Saudi Arabia, and carried by Saudi Press Agency.

On the Arab current situation,

the Saudi monarch expressed hope that existing differences between the Arab states would be removed.

He also praised the Palestinian uprising inside the Israeli-occupied Arab territories, stressing that the peoples of the GCC support their Palestinian brothers until victory.

Commenting on the Iraq-Iran war, King Fahd said that the Arab Gulf countries hope that this "destructive" war comes to an end through peaceful means.

He called, in that respect, for implementation of resolutions issued by Islamic and international bodies for an end to the Gulf war.

Soviet official lauds Kuwait's efforts to end war

MOSCOW, Feb 24, (Kuna): The Soviet Union today commended Kuwait's "distinguished" attitude toward regional and international issues steered by HH the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed.

The effective and active role Kuwait is playing in international relations is attributed to the Amir "whose wise political trend enjoys high reputation," head of the Arab Gulf department at the Soviet Foreign Ministry Ivanov Galistin said.

Foster

The Soviet Union deeply appreciates Kuwait's diplomatic efforts to end the Iraq-Iran war before it expands and drags other neutral countries to its flames, he said, adding Moscow agrees with Kuwait that negotiations is the only way to end the armed conflict.

In a statement to the Soviet agency "Novosti" on the occasion of Kuwait's 27th National Day celebrations, Galistin said the Soviet Union appreciates Kuwait's efforts to

Palestinians to boycott Shultz

A RANKING Palestinian official affirmed yesterday that Palestinians will boycott the visit by US Secretary of State George Shultz to the region, due to Washington's hostile stance on the Palestinian cause.

Bassam Abu Sharif, political advisor to PLO's chairman Yasser Arafat, said, in an interview with a Kuwaiti newspaper that Palestinians will not meet Shultz, who visits the region to drum up support for the new American peace plan.

He indicated that the US is not qualified to play a positive role in establishing a just settlement to the Mideast problem because of its anti-Palestinian stance and its rejection of any resolution aimed at protecting Arab civilians from the Israeli repression.

For the US administration to play a positive role in the Middle East, Abu Sharif noted, it must recognise the PLO and the Palestinian people's rights to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state.

The American Secretary of State is due to start his Mideast tour today.

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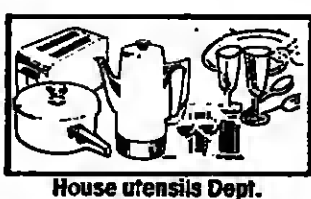
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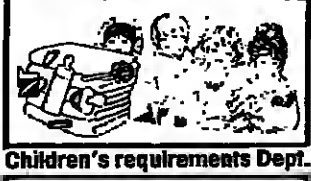
House utensils Dept.



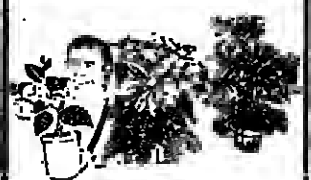
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بيت العائلة



Table Talk

BY DINAH

SINCE last May when the Table Talk column began I have reviewed meals at a number of hotel coffee shops around Kuwait. You might be interested to compare the prices we paid for three-course buffets for two people (including drinks).

Coffee Shop—Price in KD	
Kuwait Continental—Gardenia	8.400
S.A.S.—Al Bustan	9.000
Ramada—El Bandar	9.400
Meridien—La Brasserie	10.000
Hilton—La Palma	11.000
Holiday Inn	11.000
Regency Palace	13.500

Costly fare amid tasteful decor

In general we found that the price of the meal was related to the variety and quality of the ingredients used — La Brasserie and La Palma serving lavish helpings of prawns, smoked salmon or even lobster while the cheaper buffets tended to offer a more limited range of less expensive fare.

This week we ate in the coffee shop of the Regency Palace Hotel and were rather taken aback when the bill came to KD13.500 including two coffees and one apple juice. Even huffets at luxurious middle-range restaurants such as the Sheraton's Al Hamba or The Kuwait Towers were cheaper (KD12.800 and KD12.600 respectively). So what do you get for your money at the Regency Palace?

Certainly the architecture and decor of the coffee shop are in exquisite taste. The beamed ceiling, archways, dark rosewood chandeliers, wrought iron grill-work and bishop's hassock cushions create the atmosphere of a medieval banquet hall. The room has a cool, airy Mediterranean feel with the terracotta tiled floor, blue and yellow ceramics and

arched windows overlooking the pool. The chairs, though elegant, are not very comfortable. The buffet table itself is rather cramped, although it has been tastefully decorated with a simple yellow sunshade, a few plants and an aquarium and none of those garish polystyrene models that haunt most coffee shops in town.

There were few guests in the restaurant and the service throughout the meal was flawless. Our every need was anticipated, plates being quickly removed between courses and someone always close by to help with the lids of the chafing dishes.

The chefs too are to be commended. All three courses were attractively presented and prepared with delicacy and skill. However one had the impression that they were being forced to work within a strict budget. The salad buffet contained a small selection of food-stuffs when compared with other less expensive buffets around town. Apart from cold roast chicken and stuffed fish slices, all of the dishes had vegetable ingredients. For

KD13.500 one would have expected to see Gulf prawns and smoked salmon at least. Several of the salads were simple, unimaginative, mono-ingredient dishes such as grated carrot or beetroot slices. The artichokes in garlic and oil were excellent as was the mullata.

The hot dishes were all cooked to perfection. My favourite was fried fillets of hamour topped with capers, black olives and finely diced red peppers. The melting texture of the roast potatoes cooked with beef bacon is also memorable. My guest recommended the moist, tender slices of roast turkey cooked in a tasty gravy with mushrooms. There was an excellent 'machous al lham' with a fragrant topping of spiced lentils and aubergines. One could choose from veal with a julienne of peppers and onions or tender meatballs in a tangy sauce. There was also mixed grill and 'kibbe bil saniya'.

The range of desserts was rather limited and again one had the impression of careful budgeting behind scenes. There were no large gateaux, just a few individual slices of cake. The other sweets were predicta-

ble: creme caramel, trifle, chocolate mousse, fruit, Arabic pastries and muhallabia. The latter was declared to be the best in Kuwait by my dinner guest, while the fruit salad of strawberries, pineapple, kiwi fruit and apples was my personal favourite. Afterwards one could fill up on cheese and biscuits.

Our enjoyment of the meal was definitely spoiled when we saw the bill. By oo stretch of the imagination was this meal worth anything like KD13.500 and would have been more realistically priced at less than KD10. If the coffee shop of the Regency is ever fuller than the evening we were there, then the owner will make a handsome profit, although I wonder whether many guests would return to eat there again.

RESTAURANT: Regency Palace

TYPE: Coffee Shop

MEAL: Three-course buffet

PRICE: KD13.500 (for two)

Star rating (out of five):

FOOD: ★★

SERVICE: ★★

ATMOSPHERE: ★★

VALUE FOR MONEY: ★

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THURSDAY

Kuwait
Al Majed Pharmacy
Lula Pharmacy
Ahmed Al Jaber Street
Hawalli and Nagra
Al Nasr Pharmacy
Tunis St.
Salimya and Rasmithiya
Razan Pharmacy
Al Razi St.
Fahad and Ahmad
Al Ahmad Pharmacy
Suq Al Ahmad
Khalifa
Falla Pharmacy
Main Street
Jahra
Al Zahra Pharmacy
Suq Al Jaded

FRIDAY

Kuwait
Al Ghannem Pharmacy
Fahd Al Salem St.
Tajal Pharmacy
Halali St.
Hawalli and Nagra
Al Sabah Pharmacy
Othman St.
Salimya and Rasmithiya
Al Sima Pharmacy
Baghdad St.
Fahad and Ahmad
Al Badia Pharmacy
Al Dabous St.
Rasid
Al Rasai Pharmacy
Main St.
Jahra
Al Khalid Pharmacy
Opposite Jahra Co-op.

PRAYERS

THURSDAY

Fajr	4.59 am
Zuhr	12.01
Asr	3.17 pm
Maghreb	5.44
Isha	7.01

FRIDAY

Fajr	4.58 am
Friday Prayer	12.01
Asr	3.18
Maghreb	5.45
Isha	7.02

● All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

THURSDAY

On the occasion of the National Day, special programmes are presented from morning until midnight.

FRIDAY

9.00	Holy Quran
9.30	World tales
10.05	Magazine D'Actualite
11.00	Religious programme
11.15	Friday prayer
12.15	Religious programme
1.00	News summary
1.20	World News via Satellite
2.00	Interval
2.30	Programmes of the week
3.15	Religious programme by Mitwali Al Sha'r-awi
4.00	Arabic film, starring Fatim Hamama and Shokri Sarhan
7.15	Kool Al Fanoon by Rola Al Farra
7.00	Scientific programme on food
9.00	News in Arabic
9.45	Wrestling
10.45	Bedouin serial starring Abber Essa and Rabie Shihab
12.15	News Summary
12.20	World News via Satellite
1.00	Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

THURSDAY

3.00	Holy Quran
3.10	Sports Studio: Big League Soccer, Ame-



Spenser for Hire is shown on KTV 2 on Thursday. rican basketball and sports magazine

6.00 Centurions: cartoon serial
6.30 The Mickey Mouse Club: "Tohy Tyler."
7.00 Rags to Riches
8.00 News in English
8.40 Spenser for Hire: "White Night". A wealthy politician plans to get rid of Spenser's friend who is familiar with the rich man's secrets.
9.30 Bill Cosby Show: "Vanessa's Rieh." Vanessa invites her friends out and gives them the impression that she comes from a wealthy family.
10.00 Paul Daniels Magic Show: British illusionist Paul Daniels returns with more magic and tricks.
10.30 Late Night Movie: "The Night of the Hunter" (1955) with Robert Montgomery and Lizabeth Scott.
12.00 News Summary/Mag-

FRIDAY

3.00	Holy Quran
3.10	Sports Studio: round-up of world and local sporting events.
6.00	She Ra: Princess of Power. "A Loss of Words." Cartoons.
6.30	Airwolf: "Black Jack." John is sent on a mission to the Far East where he is captured by the Khmer Rouge.
7.30	Spitting Image
8.00	News in English
8.40	Breaking Away
9.05	Matlock: "The Sisters". An old man is charged with murder of his wife who was actually killed by distant relatives, twin sisters.
9.30	Weekend: local programme
10.00	What A Country: "We are in the Muboto's". Muboto's plans to marry a rich girl interfere with his friendship with his colleagues. He is forced to choose between the two.
10.30	Wise Guy. The Crime investigation department manages to plant an agent in a criminal gang. He wins the confidence of the gang's boss and plans to avenge his colleague's death.
11.30	News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus The Highest Honour Al Sahm The Living Daylights Al Hama Hanna K. Drive-In Arabic film Al Firdous Shahenshah (Hindi) Starring: Amitabh Bachchan, Meenakshi Seshadri	Fahad Open-Air Sindoor Al Fahad Shaku Shanti Al Jahra Arabic film Granada Arabic film Sulaibikhat Jalalam Al Jleeb Ghazal	Ahmadi Drive-In Arabic film Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim FRIDAY Granada Dil Jaala (Hindi) Sulaibikhat Seven Brides for Seven Brothers Al Jleeb Marita (Hindi)
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WHAT'S ON

THEATRE

Kuwait Players

After Ants Nest, Antidote — a fast-moving revue of comedy sketches and songs, to be presented by Kuwait Players from May 9. Auditions will be held at the Messilah Beach Hotel on Sunday, 28th February and Tuesday, 1st March, 7.30 to 9.30 pm. Any queries contact Paul. Tel 5611546.

SOCIAL

ACT

ACT general meeting Feb 29, 7.30 pm Mousetrap theatre, New English School. Sneak preview of current production "An Evening of Absurdity". Tickets on sale. Newcomers welcome. Everybody interested in ACT encouraged to attend. For details call 5620332 or 5725071.

MUSIC

Ghazal Singers

Jagjit and Chitra Singh, the well-known Indian ghazal singers will perform at the Kuwait Hilton on Friday March 4th, in a concert which is likely to draw a large crowd of Indian music lovers. Tickets will be on sale at the Hilton.

HOTELS

Holiday Inn

Special National Day Festivities at the Holiday Inn featuring special Buffet Brunch and Buffet Dinner at Al Dana. Children's party with band and show by Al Bandoof in Al Andalus.



Diana Hayes of Idaho US, a teacher specialising in sport for the mentally handicapped has recently spent three weeks at the Kuwait Society for the Handicapped. She was guest of honour at a reception hosted by US Embassy Information Officer Lee Irwin. Pictured are (L-R) Stella Andrews, Matron of the society, Diana Hayes, and Lee Irwin.

SPORTS

Non-pro Bowling League

The first Filipino ooo-pro bowling league matches will be held from 6 to 9 pm on Thursday, Feb 25 and Friday, Feb 26 at 300 Club near US Embassy. Matches are as follows: Thursday — Caloocan City vs Valenzuela, Friday, Las Pinas vs Makati GMBH Quezon City vs Malabon, Marikina vs Pasay City, Manila vs Basit, Caloocan City vs Navotas, Mandaluyong have a bye.

Varca Sporting Centre

The fifth seven-a-side football tournament organised by the Varca Sporting Centre will take place on February 25 at the Al Soor grounds. Matches will begin at 7 am. For entry forms and details, contact Thomas Fernandes. Tel 4835488 ext 204.

Raft Race

Raft Race 1988 entry forms and rules are now available from Messilah Beach Hotel. First captain's meeting at MBH, Al Foz Suite, on March 1, at 6.30 pm. For further details contact the hotel, ext 712/751/705.

Filipino Mini-Olympics

Kapulu invites all interested Filipinos to form their teams for 1988 mini-Olympics (Palara '88) and submit entries to Bong Melencio tel: 4877793. There will be a meeting of all sports coordinators, team managers and participants at the Philippine Embassy, on Friday Feb 26 at 2 pm to discuss the rules.

Ladies Sports Club

Application forms are available from the Ras Al Ardh Sea Club for the proposed Ladies Sports Club. The club is open from 9 am to 12 noon, and 5 to 7 pm. Tel. 5740670.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

English

08.00	Opening
08.02	Songs and Music
08.05	Thoughts in Islam
08.20	Songs and Music
08.30	NEWS
08.40	Songs and Music
08.45	Daily Programme
09.00	Songs and Music
09.30	They Sold A Million
10.00	Our Press Today
10.05	Songs and Music
10.30	Country Collection
11.00	Closedown
13.30	NEWS on FM Service

Arabic

08.00	Opening
08.02	In The Latin Mood
08.30	NEWS
08.40	Point of View
08.45	Songs and Music
09.00	Musicaud (PBUH)
09.30	In The Groove
10.00	Daily Programme
10.05	Hit Serial
11.30	Jazz in action
14.00	Closedown

World News

08.00	World News
09	News about Britain
15	Radio News
30	2nd and 9th The Mysterious Art of the Conductor, 16th and 23rd Best on Record
0100	News Summary followed by Outlook
30	Short Story

Arabic

45	The Unclaimed Promise (ex 2nd and 9th)
0200	World News
09	Commentary
15	Network UK
0300	World News
09	News about Britain
15	The World Today
30	John Peel
0400	News
30	First Recordings of British Symphonies (ex 23rd Virtuoso)
45	Reflections
50	Financial News
0300	World News
09	Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30	New Ideas
40	Turning Over New Leaves
45	The World Today
0600	News
30	Rock Salad
0700	World News
09	Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30	The Unclaimed Promise (ex 2nd and 9th)
45	Network UK
0800	World News
09	Reflections
15	Health Matters
30	Musical Features including 2nd and 9th The Mysterious Art of the Conductor, 16th and 23rd Best on Record
0900	World News
09	British Press Review
15	The World Today
30	Financial News followed by Sports Roundup
45	Capriccio (ex 2nd A Mozart Miscellany)

World News

08.00	World News
09	News about Britain
15	Radio News
30	2nd and 9th The Mysterious Art of the Conductor, 16th and 23rd Best on Record
0100	News Summary followed by Outlook
30	Short Story

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

NOTHING is ever accomplished by a reasonable man
— George Bernard Shaw, Irish-born playwright (1856-1950).

World criticism of Israel mounts

By Patrick Worsnip

LONDON, (Reuters): The Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories has brought widespread criticism from the world at large of Israel's methods of riot control but few new ideas on how to solve the Middle East problem.

The prolonged unrest in the Gaza Strip and West Bank, in which at least 59 Palestinians have been killed, has spurred the United States into launching a fresh peace initiative based largely on the 1978 Israeli-Egyptian Camp David accords.

The leaders of Egypt and Jordan have renewed efforts to promote their formula for tackling the crisis — a peace conference of the parties to the conflict and the five permanent members of the UN Security Council.

Many other countries would doubtless agree with the view expressed recently by Vatican Radio that the violence underlines the need for a Middle East solution.

But, conscious perhaps that the region is a graveyard of peace plans, these countries have done little except deplore the situation and restate long-held opinions on what needs to be done.

A Dutch Foreign Ministry official, referring to a dilemma over whether Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers should scrap a planned visit to Israel in May, probably spoke for many when he said: "The Dutch wish that the trouble would just go away."

Deplore
A European Economic Community (EEC) statement issued earlier this month said that the 12 members "deeply deplore the repressive measures taken by Israel, which are in violation of international law and human rights. These measures must stop."

The statement went no further than reiterating EEC support for the international conference scheme, which Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has rejected.

Washington's friends in Europe and the Arab world have appeared anxious not to undercut the US initiative, which

Secretary of State George Shultz has called "a new blend of ideas that have been around for a while." Shultz will visit the Middle East this week to discuss the ideas.

Israeli officials say the proposal would start off with some kind of international meeting, provide for an interim period of limited self-rule for the Palestinians and then Arab-Israeli negotiations on a permanent settlement.

Jordanian and Egyptian officials have said such a plan would not go far enough and privately many West European diplomats are also sceptical. But none of them want to discourage the United States, seen as the only power able to influence Israel, from engaging in a Middle East peace effort.

One State Department official said the violence had not hardened US government attitudes towards Israel but had made Washington more determined "to persuade Israel it is in its own interests to move the peace process forward at this time."

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), however, has rejected the plan, seeing it as a poorly-concealed attempt to take the heat off Israel while adding nothing to previous proposals.

A senior PLO official in Tunis said: "We are putting all our efforts into helping the uprising." But many independent analysts dispute the PLO's claim to have been behind the rioting and believe it may have lost the initiative to the youthful demonstrators.

Strong statements of support for the Palestinians have come from Arab allies in the Third World and communist countries. Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda declared last week that "what they (the Israelis) are doing to the Palestinians is exactly what Hitler did to the Jewish people."

Beating
In Peking, the China Daily published a cartoon of a US official looking through binoculars with his back to Israeli soldiers beating a Palestinian, with the caption: "Don't disturb me. I'm looking for human rights violations in the world."

Lack of US presidential favourites

Long struggle for the White House

By Michael Gelb

WASHINGTON, (Reuters): Iowa and New Hampshire voters, who traditionally launch US presidents on the road to the White House, have for once produced a muddle.

Instead of two main contenders emerging from the Republican and Democratic parties this year, more than half a dozen significant candidates remain after voting in the two states.

Political strategists say that for the first time since 1952, one of the parties may need more than one ballot at its national convention to choose its nominee for the presidential election in November.

"On both sides, this is going to be long, hard and unsettled," said Democratic strategist Robert Becker who managed Walter Mondale's 1984 presidential campaign. "With so many candidates it may become mathematically impossible to amass a majority of delegates."

Vice-President George Bush, bruised by a third-place finish in the Feb 8 Iowa party caucus votes, bounced back with a big New Hampshire primary win last Tuesday that restored him as the frontrunner for the Republican nomination to succeed President Reagan.

Trounced
Robert Dole, Republican leader in the Senate who trounced Bush in Iowa, is still a serious contender and former television evangelist Pat Robertson has built a strong army of evangelical Christians worried about declining moral standards.

The Democrats, who began the year without a clear favourite, still lack one and have four candidates capable of amassing support in contests over the next few weeks.

Massachusetts governor Michael Dukakis, who has the

most money, won in neighbouring New Hampshire.

Missouri representative Richard Gephardt, the Iowa winner, was helped by regional ties.

Tennessee Senator Albert Gore and civil rights leader Jesse Jackson, two sons of the south, are hoping to score well on "Super Tuesday" — the next big primary-season event on March 8, when voting will take place in 20 states, 12 of them in the south.

About a third of the delegates to the presidential nominating convention in each party will be chosen on that day.

Publicity
New Hampshire and Iowa accounted for just two per cent of delegates and were fought mainly for publicity and credibility.

Super Tuesday could theoretically produce a clear leader but it seems unlikely that any Democrat will win much more than a third of the 1,307 party delegates chosen on that day.

There will be 4,162 delegates at the Democratic convention in Atlanta in July, with a majority (2,082) needed to nominate a candidate.

On Super Tuesday, it is possible that one Democratic candidate might win the most delegates, another might have support from the most states and a third might receive the biggest popular vote.

"Almost everybody is going to claim some kind of victory on Super Tuesday," says Ann Lewis, former Democratic Party political director.

Former Democratic Party chairman Robert Strauss says the odds are 50-50 that the primary battles will end in June without a Democratic nominee.

If that occurs, the contest could be settled by 645 delegates who are not legally bound to back any candidate. These are party leaders and past and present elected officials.

Unique indeed

SIR: During the past few months many letters have appeared in the Arab Times criticising the content of KTV 2: eight o'clock news and alleged incompetence of its newscasters.

These criticisms are unkind and totally without justification. I want to express my appreciation for this unique news programme.

I look forward every night to watching the KTV 2 news and never miss it because it provides relief for the evening.

Mr Suleiman Kalandar has been singled out for criticism but I have always admired his serious manner and his mellifluous voice. He runs words and phrases together, punctuated by the occasional splutter. For a long time, however, I

have tried to identify the language he speaks, but I failed. I can only conclude that he speaks a language which is entirely of his own invention. Such linguistic originality should be lauded, not despised.

As for the content of the news, it accurately reflects local priorities and concerns and is rarely contaminated by hard facts of any kind.

In fact my only criticism would be that KTV 2 fails to provide the necessary subtitles in English. Has KTV 2 ever considered syndicating its newscasts and distributing them worldwide? I am sure they would find an enthusiastic audience, especially among the penguins of Antarctica and the geriatric tortoises in Galapagos Islands.

Who knows these newscasters may promote bilateral relations with that mysterious island off New Zealand which still appears in the KTV 2 world map, and was first discovered by Keith Wells who is a keen observer of such matters of mutual concern.

Mustafa Lafi,
Kuwait.

Too large amount

SIR: Recently, I obtained a ration card and found the distribution system excellent, commodities supplied were plentiful and cheap.

However, the packing of items like wheat flour in large quantity leaves no choice for small and medium sized families to buy such items in required quantities.

My family consists of two adults and two small children

and I certainly do not need a 50-kg bag of flour for a month. Since wheat flour is not available elsewhere, nor remains fresh for very long, one has to forego the item altogether due to its large packing or let the remainder go waste. There must be quite a number of families around, facing such a dilemma.

The authorities should pack wheat flour in smaller quantities like in bags of five or ten kgs, allowing some option to the consumer.

Jacob George,
Wafra.

Confusion at film festival

SIR: The recent American Film Festival was marred by organisational confusion.

Sikhs kill Sikhs

By Dilip Ganguly

KATHUNANGAL, India, (AP): The turbulent 12-year-old Sikh Darshan Singh was half-burned from the heat of the mud oven where he hid to escape death.

But the killers — Sikhs themselves — yanked him out, and he died in a burst of gunfire. Darshan, his elder brother Gajjan and his father Jarnail were killed in their courtyard in the village of Fattu Bheela, home of 2,000 Sikhs. More than 100 shots were fired.

Attack

It was just one case of Sikhs killing Sikhs. Never before in the six-year campaign for an independent homeland for Sikh radicals have the killers turned their guns so relentlessly on people of their own minority faith.

Of the 283 deaths blamed on Sikh militants this year in the Sikh-dominated northern state of Punjab, at least 169 victims were Sikhs. Eighty-four were Hindus and 30 were unidentified. Last Friday and Saturday, 31 people were killed in a spree of attacks by radicals. At least 20 were Sikhs.

Harbhajan Kaur, the mother

A new turn to terrorist violence

of 12-year-old victim Darshan, told of the attack last week in the village near Kathunangal, 30 kilometres (18 miles) north of Amritsar, the Sikh holy city and centre of the radical campaign.

She said from a hospital bed that she was wounded but, because of fear, no neighbour came to help even in the tiny village.

"They shot at me, but I did not die. I was lying in my courtyard the whole night, bleeding," she said.

The Sikh campaign began with killing of Hindus, India's religious majority but a minority in Punjab. The radicals allege economic and cultural domination by Hindus and want an independent homeland for their 16 million people.

Most of the around 1,000 people slain by Sikh radicals last year were Hindus. Theories vary on why the guns have been turned on Sikhs.

"Most of the men killed are either former terrorists or hangers-on and their families who now refuse to give shelter to the militants," S.S. Virk, deputy

director general of the Paramilitary Central Reserve Police Force, said in an interview at Amritsar.

"It is just a terror tactic. The militants want the message to go deep — that they will not only kill those who oppose them, but even those who refuse to support them," said Amritsar district police superintendent Mohammed Izzar Alam.

But the killers have their own logic, claiming all Sikh victims are police informers or enemies of their 500-year-old faith, founded as an alternative to warring Muslims and Hindus.

Kill

"We shed the blood of only enemies, not of innocents or passive people. ... It is not a Sikh tradition to kill the innocent," said Giani Jagir Singh, spokesman for the "Panthic Committee," an umbrella group that controls the Sikh movement.

"Write it down," the 45-year-old Singh commanded during an interview in a bare, windowless room in the Sikhs' Golden Temple. "I have led half a dozen

attacks myself and in every case, we killed only police informers."

Why are Sikh women and children also killed?

"Have you heard of an old Punjabi saying — when you grind wheat to get flour, some millets also get crushed," said Singh, a large man with flowing beard.

Fired

Dewan Singh, a police detective in Amritsar, said that in most cases the killers are recognised by the victims' families, so they deliberately wipe out all witnesses.

"I have analysed 25 death cases and circumstances indicate evidence suggests that in 19 cases, the killers were known to the victims," said Dewan Singh.

In the 19 cases, police found half emptied glasses of milk or 'sarbat', sweetened water with lemon, which were believed served to the assailants. Rarely did the killers have to force their entry.

"Which means the victims knew the voices of the killers," said Dewan Singh.

On being invited by some of my American friends, who were quite sure that the festival was open to all, I went to see the film on Feb 11 with my family. At the gate we were first stopped by two persons but just after that a staff member of the American Embassy ushered us in.

Sensing some confusion, I checked with Cine Club authorities whether it was OK to come the next day without membership. Despite all their assurances, we were again stopped the next day, while some other people who are not members were being allowed in. We had to return home without seeing the film.

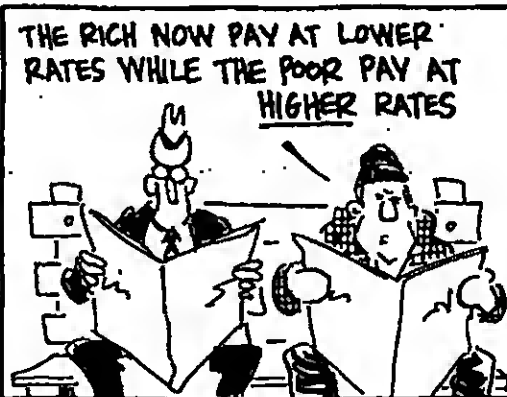
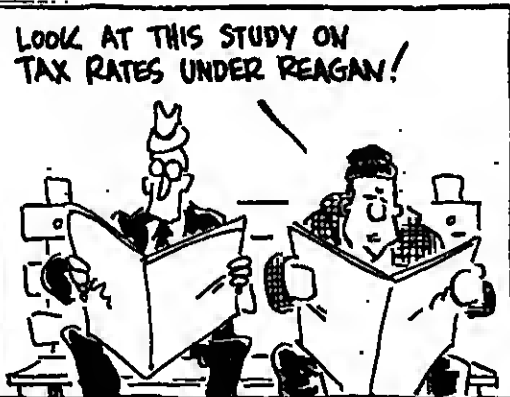
"I request the Cine Club to announce its intentions, very clearly in the newspapers. If it intends to limit the admissions strictly to its members it should say so. That way the general



public would be spared the harassment.

Satish Dabral,
Salmiah.

ALL letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.



By John Owen-Davies

ANKARA, (Reuters): Stung by charges of bad reporting, Turkish journalists have set up a watchdog body to help improve the image of their newspapers and maintain press freedom.

Relations have long been strained between the government and most top newspapers, with sensational political articles, showbusiness "exposés" and pictures of scantily-clad girls bringing pressure for legal controls and a draft law to punish "false news."

Shouts of agreement, and a chorus of "the press is a liar," provided a background for scathing comments about newspapers made by Turkey's conservative Prime Minister Turgut Ozal at a party meeting a few days ago.

Ilmur Cevik, editor-in-chief of the Turkish Daily News, said journalists were aware, "things are getting out of hand and that irresponsible reporting has tarnished the image of the press."

"The best remedy is the one the press offers, to correct itself. This is why the Press Council has to succeed. Failure will be an open invitation for the government to suppress the press," he wrote in an editorial.

Change

His view of the Press Council is not shared by some newsmen who see it as government-inspired although agree change is needed.

The government says it has no wish to reduce press freedom and is taking every precaution to make democracy bloom following the 1980 coup and three years of military rule.

Since the Press Council came into being this month, the government has shelved its draft law

Turkish press tries to brush up image

providing for fines up to the equivalent of \$10,000 for publishing "false news."

Editors feared the "false news" draft, terming it a grey area, and said such a law, together with those already dealing with obscenity and "anti-state activities," could be used to curb press criticism.

The Press Council has been set up at a critical time as the fiercely-independent newspapers fight to keep readers against a state-controlled television drive to extend coverage to most of Turkey's 52 million predominantly-Muslim people.

The total circulation of newspapers, which generally see themselves as pursuing a parliamentary opposition role, has dipped since 1983 to about 2.5 million from over three million.

Ozal witheringly dismissed newspaper power as he spoke to party members in Izmir this month. "Let them write. They don't have any influence any more."

Accused

And he accused one newspaper of publishing, on successive days, contradictory reports on the volatile "tahtakale" currency black market.

New Defence Minister Ercan Varolhan has just weathered a storm stirred by the left-leaning daily Cumhuriyet, which alleged he had been involved in shady dealings while a career diplomat.

Varolhan denied the charges. Exposés of showbusiness personalities, such as US rock star Madonna, and titillating pic-

tures of foreign pornographic film actresses and other so-called celebrities carried in some of the nine big papers do little to endear them to the establishment.

According to Cumhuriyet, nine newspapers and magazines have been fined a total equivalent to \$6.5 million under the obscenity law, passed in 1986.

Okay Eksi, a respected columnist for the biggest selling daily Hurriyet, said the Press Council, which he helped to form, would investigate and decide on complaints about the press and strive to maintain press freedom.

Ban

"We want to initiate moves through political parties to put articles into the constitution that will ban proposing any draft press legislation aimed at hindering press freedom."

Ahmet Abakay, chairman of the Association of Contemporary Journalists, opposes the council. He says the idea for such a body first came from the government and that some of its founders no longer have any relationship with the press.

"If there are obstacles to press freedom in a country — and indeed there are many in Turkey — the struggle for getting rid of them is the job of the journalists' trade unions and the press associations," he said.

The Press Council's charter was signed by representatives of the major dailies and three domestic news agencies. Its governing body comprises journalists, professors and an actress.

Aquino's third year

Dreams of social progress, reform remain unfulfilled

By Robert H. Field

MANILA, (AP): President Corazon Aquino, despite coup attempts and political turmoil, begins her third year in office today more secure in power than at any time in her turbulent administration.

But many who saw the Feb 25, 1986, uprising against President Ferdinand Marcos are disappointed that dreams of social progress and reform remain unfulfilled.

The coalition of reformist soldiers, human rights activists, the Roman Catholic church and business groups that propelled Mrs Aquino to power has been shattered in the hickering that followed.

Land reform remains bogged down in Congress. Human rights groups that once castigated Marcos for the abuses of his administration now raise similar charges against the Aquino government.

In a radio broadcast Sunday, Mrs Aquino described her first two years in office as "very difficult."

Fulfillment

"I do not describe it as enjoyment," she said. "But definitely it is fulfillment of the highest degree." She said improving the economic condition of the Filipino people would be her first priority in the coming year.

Last week, the major topic in Manila newspapers was a debate over calls for a "limited state of emergency," raising dark memories of the worst excesses of the Marcos era.

"It appears that the anniversary will confirm the demise of a failed reformist revolution," wrote commentator Amando Doronila in the Manila Chronicle. "It will show that the revolution, two years after, is like a crushed anthill, with its inhabitants scurrying about without direction and in disarray."

Brig Gen Honesto Islaeta, Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos' former spokesman, suggested a limited emergency to deal with the communists. Rep Eduardo Gutang, a retired general, proposed a national security act similar to those in Malaysia and Singapore. It allows, among other things, detention without charge for 60 days.

Laws

After criticism from liberal congressmen and the Manila press, Ramos said there was no need for a state of emergency. But he called for tougher laws, including a national identity card system, longer detention for suspected rebels and re-imposition of the death penalty.

Sen. Rene Saguisag, a former presidential spokesman and human rights lawyer, accused the military of "blackmail" and Sen. Teodoro Guingona branded the proposed identity card system as the trappings of a police state.

Despite the disillusionment in some sectors, most Western and Philippine analysts doubt that disgruntled military officers, Marcos loyalists or communists rebels can topple the popular 55-year-old widow before her term expires on June 30, 1992.

Military challenges to the Aquino administration reached their peak last August, when mutineers seized media and military installations before being driven off some 15 hours later.

The leader of the coup attempt, Lt Col. Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan, was arrested the following December. Ironically, he played a major role in the Feb 22, 1986, mutiny against Marcos, which triggered the popular uprising that brought Mrs Aquino to power.

Threat

Most analysts believe that communist rebels, while a serious long-term threat, appear to lack both the military strength and political following to topple Mrs Aquino within the next four years.

"The question used to be, 'will Cory make it to 1992?'" said one Western analyst, who spoke on

condition of anonymity. "Now it is 'what will she do in the rest of her term?'"

Beyond surviving, the principal achievement of the Aquino administration has been the restoration of popular democracy, marked by ratification of a liberal constitution and the elections of senators, congressmen and regional officials.

Last week, however, Senate president Jovito Salonga noted there were 700 allegations of fraud in the Jan 18 regional election. He said those who believe "real democracy has been restored" are more obsessed with theory than actual fact.

Prospects for broad social, economic and political reform have been clouded by several factors, including a \$28-billion debt, a cumbersome legislature and political polarisation widened by the communist rebellion and a rise in military influence.

For much of her term, Aquino faced serious challenges from the military, and she owes her political survival to a great extent to a faction under Ramos.

Plots

As Chief of Staff, Ramos held most of the armed forces behind the government and fended off six coup plots. Social activists fear his reliance on the Ramos faction has resulted in a down-playing of the government's commitment to reform and human rights.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1545 — Scots defeat English forces at Ancrum moor.
- 1570 — England's Queen Elizabeth I is excommunicated by Pope Pius V.
- 1601 — England's Earl of Essex is executed for treason.
- 1623 — Maximilian, Duke of Bavaria, is granted Upper Palatinate by Holy Roman Emperor Ferdinand II.
- 1713 — Sweden's King Charles XII is taken prisoner by Sultan of Turkey.
- 1760 — Robert Clive leaves India to return to England.
- 1803 — Diet of Ratisbon reconstructs German states under influence of France and Russia.
- 1885 — Germany annexes Tanganyika and Zanzibar.
- 1948 — Communist coup in Czechoslovakia.
- 1954 — Colonel Gamal Abdel Nasser usurps power as premier of Egypt; Syria's President Chikckell flees following Army revolt.
- 1956 — Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev goes before Communist Party congress in Moscow and denounces late dictator Joseph Stalin.
- 1976 — United States vetoes United Nations resolution deploring Israel's annexation of occupied Jerusalem.
- 1978 — United States cautions Soviet Union that continued Soviet military involvement in Ethiopia-Somalia conflict could impair Soviet-US relations.
- 1986 — Philippines President Ferdinand E. Marcos resigns, brought down by a "people's power" uprising, military revolt, and US pressure.
- 1987 — Pro-Iranian Shiite Muslims bury 23 militants killed by Syrian soldiers in Lebanon, and claim they were "deliberately massacred" with axes and bayonets.



Bureaucratic nonsense

By Keith Wells

THE other day a friend of mine started telling me about all the hassles he's having trying to send his cat back home to England. Gone are the days when jolly old Dick Whittington could wander around the place quite happily with his cat and his spotted handkerchief on a stick. Nowadays, if you want to travel with your cat, the poor creature'd better have his paperwork in order!

I was so intrigued by this that I made arrangements to go and interview the Cat Ambassador and Pussipotentiary to Kuwait, His Excellency Thomas Whiskers. He asked me to come on Friday afternoon, when the people he lived with would be asleep. He was a handsome devil, all black with a white waist coat and white boots.

"Come in, Mr Keith, come in, how perfectly lovely to see you, permit me to take your coat. Would you like some coffee, I've got the purrrolator purring away."

"Thanks very much, I'd love some, your Excellency."

"Call me Tom. Here's Your coffee. I think I'll have something stronger, a drop of Purred purraps. He purred himself a drink then sat down and waited for me to tell him what I wanted."

"It's about travelling, Tom, I wanted to ask about all the regulations, could you explain them to me?"

"Pussibly," he mewed, "What exactly do you want to know. Come, Mr Keith, don't pussy foot around, just go ahead and ask."

Health Warning: Persons who are allergic to either cats or puns should avoid reading the following article as it may be damaging to their health.

"Thank you. I hope I'm not letting the cat out of the bag..."

"Why not?" he growled, "It's a terrible place to keep a cat!"

"Oh yes, quite, sorry. Er... how do you start to get the formalities completed?"

"When a pussuron wants to travel, the first thing he, or she, or in those sad cases where they have had their inalienable rights moved, it needs an identity card. For that they have to have a medical in case they have some terrible disease like cataracts, or catarrh or cataplexy. Next, they need a No Objections Certificate."

"Is that all?" I enquired.

"Oh no, then they have to fill out several forms, all in triplicate."

"How about photographs?"

"Of course, every pussuron has to record their pawprints down at the Pussport Office. Tom yawned, "It's so boring there, all the waiting, I get bored out my paws so I usually take a catnap or play cat's cradle to pass the time, otherwise I'd probably fall into a catatonic trance."

Just then we were interrupted by a rather embarrassing series of noises from the bedroom where Tom's owners

were in bed, grunts and giggles and bed springs creaking and a sort of rhythmic moaning. Tom was obviously annoyed and muttered "Purrvers!" then took off one of his boots and flung it at the door. The noises stopped at once.

"They're terrible," he growled. "Sometimes I have to go and throw a bucket of cold water over them. I shouldn't be city, but really, humans have no sense of decorum. Now, where were we?"

"You were telling me about the Pussport Office."

"Ah yes, then they have to fill in the forms, especially the bit about religion, we're all cat-buddhists, you know, every little kitten can recite his catechism, and the Magnificat."

"What happens when all the formalities are completed?"

"Next stop is the Airline Office, I usually fly Cathay Pussific, of course. There's a whole catalogue of regulations about travelling boxes, and the weight allowance isn't enough for a cat's pajamas. Still, the Purred are very good and you can usually persuade them to let you carry on a few personal pussessions. But the boxes are very small."

"Not enough room to swing a cat!" I joked.

Tom glared at me frostily. "What a disgusting idea."

"Oh I'm very sorry, Your Excellency, I didn't realise. I suppose I've really put the cat among the pigeons now."

"That's better," Tom said, sheathing his claws, "I like that idea very much."

"What's it like flying in the baggage hold?"

"Quite frankly it's a dog's life. There you are in the dark, like being in the catacombs, next thing you know you're catapulted into their. It's hard not to feel really persecuted. Everyone complains, of course, cat-calling and caterwauling at the airline purrsonnel."

"Then what happens when you get to Heathrow?"

"Oh that's another catastrophe, we have to spend six months in quarantine or else we're purrsuna non grata. Still, eventually they purrmit us to leave."

"What do you do when you finally get out?" I asked.

Tom grinned like his Cheshire cousin. "It's purradsise," he smiled. "I always like to celebrate by doing something cultural, in the morning I go to a museum, then that first night I like to go to a show in the West End. I love musicals, you can probably guess my favourite."

I thanked the Ambassador for all his help and just as I was going I asked one last question. "Do you like being a cat?"

"Of course," he said, stroking his whiskers. "There are lots of purrks."

THE Centres for Disease Control have just announced a new health hazard. It is called "A-Meesia," known to medical circles as, "Attorney General's Disease."

Dr Covey Extra, who discovered it, said A-Meesia has reached epidemic proportions in the Justice Department and has even infiltrated the Cabinet in the White House.

"What are the symptoms?" I asked Dr Extra.

"Loss of memory is the main one. The person is unable to remember any details when testifying in regards to crimes involving himself or his friends."

"He goes blank?"

"Completely, particularly when it has something to do with the law. At these times he can't distinguish right from wrong."

"Are you sure this is a new disease?"

"I'm quite certain. I had an attorney general in the other day and I asked him

The Art Buchwald Column

A case of A-Meesia

to read a memo on the Iraqi pipeline. He couldn't do it. Then I handed him a paper concerning Wedtech and he said, 'I never saw this before.'

"What was wrong with that?" I asked.

"He had read it out loud in my waiting room an hour before. It was a textbook case of A-Meesia. The man had lost all recollection of who and what he had been involved with in the last seven years."

"It sounds like there is a pattern to the illness."

"If you lose your memory once, it is not serious. But when you continually lose it in public, then you are sick."

"Can you contract A-Meesia from other people?"

"That's the easiest way

to get it. My patient confessed to me he was coconstantly having financial relations with his friends."

"Where have you witnessed the most cases of A-Meesia?"

"I saw a lot of it during the Iraqgate hearings. So many people were losing their memories we had to set up a MASH unit outside the Senate hearing room."

"Is there a cure?"

Some people in the Administration have been taking an aspirin every other day. But it hasn't stopped them from forgetting everything."

"Suppose," I said, "A-Meesia is psychosomatic and people are pretending they have lost their memories so they won't be indicted by a grand jury?"

"We thought of that, but rejected it. A-Meesia is a

real disease and has to be dealt with as such. That's why we're doing a lot of work with rats. If we can find out why white rats forget, then we may discover why government lawyers do the same thing."

"Do you have any leads?"

"We suspect it might be the asbestos in the Attorney General's ceiling. But then again he might have caught A-Meesia when he was working as counselor to the President. We don't have much to work with. But we have to find an answer. There is nothing so sad as seeing an attorney general who doesn't know what time it is."

"I'm sure you'll find a medical solution."

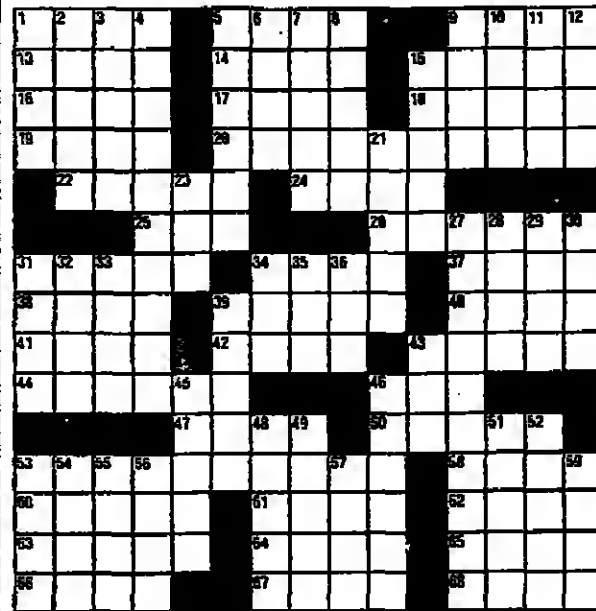
"Maybe, maybe not. I just received this specimen bottle back from the Justice Department lab."

"Whose is it?"

"Nobody over there can remember."

1988, Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Zig
 - 5 Truck stop brew
 - 9 Suffragette
 - 13 Chapman —
 - 14 School for kindergarten grads.
 - 15 Bode
 - 16 Humdinger
 - 17 Laborer, once
 - 18 Sand word
 - 19 Ideal place
 - 20 Circuitous
 - 22 Rabbit of music
 - 24 Agitate
 - 25 Young one
 - 26 Goose eggs
 - 31 — as a whistle
 - 34 Turk Murphy's milieu
 - 37 River in Yorkshire
 - 38 Out on a —
 - 39 "Crazy like a fox"
 - 40 Heavily bear
 - 41 Actor Jennings
 - 42 Sign, of a sort
 - 43 Atlas feature
 - 44 Do without
 - 46 Hoosier State, for short
 - 47 October birthstone
 - 50 Military student
 - 53 Cut of beef
 - 58 Turquoise hue
 - 60 Cancel
 - 61 Judd Hirsch's TV show
 - 62 Invalid
 - 63 Snide
 - 64 Capri, for one
 - 65 Senora's house
 - 66 Cabell of baseball
 - 67 "Moonstruck" star
 - 68 Spirit
 - 69 DOWNS
 - 1 Fidd mouse
 - 2 Dodge
 - 3 Snigger
 - 4 Place for a discussion
 - 5 Scofield
 - 6 In addition
 - 7 Goddess of love
 - 8 Catkin
 - 9 Restrain
 - 10 Exchange premium
 - 11 Nobelist Bishop Desmond —
 - 12 Waste allowance
 - 15 Informal
 - 21 Dean of baseball
 - 23 Actor Ogilvy
 - 27 Cotillion event
 - 28 Yours and mine
 - 29 Being
 - 30 County center
 - 31 Musical symbol
 - 32 VIP's vehicle
 - 33 Mideast title
 - 34 Preserve
 - 35 Mahara
 - 36 Kind of Buddhism
 - 39 Pens
 - 43 "— minute"
 - 45 Divine
 - 46 More gooey
 - 48 Loft
 - 49 Dog owner's need
 - 51 Peer
 - 52 Oklahoma oil center
 - 53 Barrel
 - 54 — even
 - 55 Biblical preposition
 - 56 Cashews
 - 57 Wheels' connector
 - 59 Comic King

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

- A SWITCH IN TIME

Neither vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
 ♠ K 10 8 4
 ♥ A K
 ♦ Q J 6 3
 ♣ K Q 2

WEST
 ♠ J 9
 ♥ Q J 10 4 2
 ♦ A 8 5
 ♣ 9 7 6

EAST
 ♠ 7 3
 ♥ 8 6 5
 ♦ K 9 7 4
 ♣ A J 10 5

SOUTH
 ♠ A Q 6 5 2
 ♥ 9 7 3
 ♦ 10 2
 ♣ 8 4 3

The bidding:
 North East South West
 1 ♦ Pass 1 ♣ Pass
 4 ♣ Pass Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♣

Few defensive plays are more difficult to make than leading away from an ace up to known strength in dummy. It seems to go against the grain, yet it is often vital.

North had a difficult choice of leads. A jump to four spades was a trifle pushy; a mere three spades would have been something of an underbid. Since North was by nature aggressive, he followed his instincts and hid the game.

Declarer won the opening lead and drew two rounds of trumps, ending in hand. Next came a low diamond. West could have made life easy for his partner by rising with the ace and shifting to a club. That would have permitted the defenders to collect their four minor-suit

tricks in peace and quiet. But he played low, and when East captured the jack with the king, he was in the hot seat.

He proved equal to the challenge. He shifted to the jack of clubs! Declarer had no way to escape his fate. The only place he could get rid of a club was on a diamond winner, but time had run out on him. When he led the ten of diamonds to set up dummy's queen, it was a simple matter for West to grab the ace of diamonds and switch back to a club, allowing East to collect two club tricks for a one-trick set.

There is another version of this defense that is even more difficult. That is when dummy holds the ace-queen of a suit, and you have to lead away from your king when you are sitting behind the tenace. This defense may be necessary to set up a trick in the suit by force before declarer has time to establish a side suit for discards.



THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

<p>Aries (March 20 - April 18)</p> <p>This is going to be an extremely favourable day for you. You have a lot to do and no time to waste. You should use more charm and less force. Be tactful.</p>	<p>Cancer (June 21 - July 21)</p> <p>You will be able to exercise more personal charm, but you should not rely too much on it. Make allowances for deficiencies — other people's as well as your own. Avoid being excessively optimistic.</p>	<p>Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)</p> <p>Do not pretend to knowledge you have not got. Try not to do anything that would make you unpopular if this can be avoided. However do not aim simply to curry favour. Be tactful.</p>	<p>Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan 19)</p> <p>A brilliant idea of yours will help you to deal with a current problem. You will be more persuasive but you must not expect to get your own way in all things. Eat and drink more sparingly. Be loyal.</p>
<p>Taurus (April 19 - May 19)</p> <p>You will tend to be a little on the nervous side. However you will feel more in form physically. Do not jump to conclusions and do not believe all you hear. Be realistic.</p>	<p>Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)</p> <p>You will be subject to some doubts, but they will be largely unfounded. You will be able to learn from experience. Do your utmost to maintain harmony with your partner. Be prompt.</p>	<p>Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)</p> <p>You will know how to make the best of things. Others will be more inclined to listen to and take note of what you say. Try not to think negative thoughts. Be cordial.</p>	<p>Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)</p> <p>You should not be quite so glib and use another pinch of salt. You should take care about the way in which you express yourself. Try to anticipate all possible reactions to an action of yours. Be more tolerant.</p>
<p>Gemini (May 20 - June 20)</p> <p>The prospects are better but hard work is needed. You should not think that everything will just turn out for the best whatever you do. Check your facts and do make sure your information is up to date. Be generous.</p>	<p>Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)</p> <p>You will be better able to keep your wits about you. There is a tendency to spend a little too recklessly. You should not say the first thing that comes into your head. Be helpful.</p>	<p>Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)</p> <p>A project on which you are engaged will proceed well only you will have to work hard at it. You will be a little nervous but will be able to overcome your apprehension. Try to make your partner happy. Be more patient.</p>	<p>Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)</p> <p>You should rely much more on reason and much less on intuition. Make sure you do not lose sight of your objectives. Take even more care when driving or otherwise using the road. Be meticulous.</p>

ANDY CAPP

By Smith



CINE ROUND-UP FROM BOMBAY

by Firoze Rangoonwalla

Special to the
Arab Times

Many new films launched with much fanfare

Amitabh weaves his magic once again

AFTER a whole year without a single release, Amitabh Bachchan is all set to make a grand comeback. At the rate he has signed films and completed their shootings, he will have a crowded release programme from the middle of this year.

It seems Amitabh has at last realised that politics cannot be his field and cinema is where he really belongs. Though he joined Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on his annual holiday at Lakshadweep island, Amit is devoting all his time to film work and not dabbling much in political climbing or pleasing the voters. Now, he wants once more to get a public vote of confidence as a hero and back in the glory of his films, preferably four to five running at the same time.

He was also stung by Subhash Ghai shelving Dewa Rahul Raiwal dropping him from *Mast Qalandar* in favour of

Dharmendra and his own big *Shahenshah* being postponed for so long. That's why he gathered together his old producers and some new ones to gauge their faith in his box-office charisma. They and their distributors found that he was still hot property. Then followed a stream of new films, launched in a showy way and shooting at a hectic speed. For some producers he has even signed two films each.

Yash Johar who has produced some successful films in the past (including *Dostana* with Amit and Shatrughan) has signed Amitabh for two new films. One will be directed by Mukul Anand and the other by Shibu Mitra, both being directors who have had his recently.

Both films will have Mithun as a parallel hero. The first will go into production at once. Prakash Mehra, who got along extremely well with Amit at one

time and made record-breaking hits was out of the hero's favour, due to some internal fights. But now he has bounced back in the star's camp and started two films, *Jadoogar* and *Sadhu Sant*. These two also have Mithun, who is Amit's co-star in *Ganga Jamuna Saraswati* being readied for release by Manmohan Desai.

Keenness

Amitabh has Sach as his imminent release, apart from *Shahenshah* and a guest appearance in *Soorma Bhopali* for the future, he has Shashi Kapoor's *Ajooba* or *Black Prince*, Ramesh Sippy's *Akela*, Rakesh Roshan's *Jashil*, apart from Nadiadwala's *Aashish* and Tinnu Anand's *Mahakal*. New projects with other successful directors are also under his consideration. Moreover, he has started working feverishly after a bout of

sickness cum depression and a lull of inactivity, when he had only three films on hand.

His keenness is evident from the way he works. In any case, he was always considered punctual and painstaking, even during that frivolous romantic period with Rekha, when they used to run away from shootings. But now, he is even more earnest, and determined to come back with a vengeance. For Manmohan Desai's second film *Toofan* in which he has a double role, he finished a marathon spell which has made the film almost three-fourths complete. *Meenakshi*, *Amrita* and *Farouque Shaikh* are his co-stars. For Sach opposite *Shabana Azmi*, he did almost non-stop shooting at Pune, Bombay and other locales. For *Ganga Jamuna Saraswati*, he did long spells in the South despite an injury. The heroines are Jaya Prada and Meenakshi.

The speed is being seen in the results, as he will have two major movies and one small realistic film ready to follow *Shahenshah*. The only catch is that Sach has still not been booked by distributors, except in one zone, as it is not the usual action film. *Aashish* with Dimple and Meenakshi as the heroines, has just begun filming and it is already sold out for all centres. *Ajooba* the Indo-Soviet venture of Shashi Kapoor with Dimple as heroine has also started shooting. Other films are being formally launched this month. Soon, Amit will be juggling with the different dates.

Why are his films having lavish "mahurats" and celebrations nowadays, whereas formerly they would just go ahead in a businesslike way? It is obvious that Amit wants to show off his conquests, spite his rivals and declare that he is busy and successful, despite the political mishaps. That is why Prakash Mehra held two separate launchings of his two films amidst a big crowd of guests and journalists, for popular appeal.

The "mahurat" of *Jadoogar* was much talked about, as Amitabh came in a Michael Jackson type embroidered coat, complete with dark glasses with the excuse that he had an eye injury. Poor Mithun who is the "pretender" of the Jackson title looked nonplussed with his own similar glasses. Amit made a bigger impression playing a real magician and playing to the gallery.

When Kalyanji — Anandji gave him a disc, he turned it into a handkerchief and asked the composers to wipe their sweat. Then he said that the best magic on earth was a woman and produced Jaya Prada whom he embraced. All this got him a lot of applause. "Sadhu Sant" was also launched with much fanfare and the inspector general of police switched on the camera.

Producers Mushir and Riaz managed to bring together director Ramesh Sippy and Amitabh after the debacle of *Shakti*. And then Akela strangely spelt as *Akayla* went before the camera. The heroines are again Jaya Prada and Amrita Singh, while the parallel hero is



At the mahurat of 'Jadoogar' Amitabh acted the magician dressed in a Michael Jackson-type embroidered coat.

Jackie Shroff, while Shashi Kapoor plays an important role. A fortnight's schedule was also completed. Thereafter Yash Johar launched his first one of Amitabh directed by Mukul Anand, followed by a 5-day shooting spell.

The style in which Amitabh is working, does not allow him to use the land route to go from one location to another. He literally flies. For the shooting of *Toofan* when he was staying in Bangalore and the location was Hoogly, he would go in a helicopter along with Manmohan Desai. The high cost would of course be shared by both, as they are almost like partners and Amit has a share in the distribution rights. It is also peculiar that the hero prefers to work only with the same small select group of producers and co-artists, even if it is at the cost of variety.

And while the hero zooms high in the film skies above the cesspools of politics, there are



Amitabh and Sagar (L) in Ganga Jamuna Saraswati.

waves within the ruling party circles again. They want to use his new popularity and make him stand for re-election from

the same place, where he won and then resigned. We hope Amit won't allow himself to enter the vicious circle again.



Amitabh (extreme left) with Amrita Singh and Prakash Mehra at the launching of another new film.

Art cinema survives in Calcutta

By Clare Colvin

CALCUTTA has received a bad press for so long that it is preparing for its tercentenary in 1990 in a mood of cheerful defiance. Its pollution is all enveloping and the night air is a damp, dense smog that goes straight to the throat.

The traffic is stationary during rush hours, the pavements are covered with a fine layer of dust and the poverty is a condition of life.

Yet Calcuttans are proud of their city for the vitality and good humour with which it survives. More than any other in India, it has a passion for the arts and culture. Not for nothing is the festival for Saraswati, the goddess of learning, the most important here.

Go to Calcutta University and you pass streets lined with bookstalls. Theatre productions attract full houses — Utpal Dutt's adaptation into Bengali of *The Lower Depths*, set in the slums of north Cal-



Satyajit Ray: would like to make a film on bonded labour

cutta, has been packing them in, as has a Bengali adaptation of Wesker's *Chicken Soup With Barley*.

The film industry manages to find space for artistic titles among the commercial song-and-dance films that are its bread and butter. Satyajit Ray, famous for the *Apu* trilogy about a child growing up in modern India, has been a



Victor Bannerjee: film ambitions

dominating influence for years, but there are a number of younger directors who are making their mark, among them Aparna Sen (who directed *36 Chowringhee Lane*) and Goutam Ghosh.

Victor Bannerjee, star of Ray films and who played *Aziz* in *A Passage To India*, plans to make a serious film after learning his trade by directing what

he calls "a commercial pot-boiler."

Everyone tells me that Ray himself is not going to make another feature film because he is still too ill after his heart bypass operation four years ago.

Ray, who lives in an apartment with high ceilings and verandas at the top of a crumbling colonial building, maintains that rumours of his retirement are greatly exaggerated.

We talked in a room whose shelves are lined with books, records, files and papers where he has worked on his films over the years. He is tall, imposing and dressed in white kurta and shawl.

The problem now, he says, is to get a film idea that will not worry his doctors. They tell him that he should not work outside a studio, but all his ideas need to be filmed on location.

"All my films have been about the middle classes," he said. "What I would like to do next is a film on bonded labour."

Amitabh's Sach may be delayed due to one more odd reason. The title is owned and registered by producers Vinod Pandey who has already started shooting his own Sach. Producer Na Anand and director Tinnu Anand were so over-confident that they did not even check if any one else had thought of the name. And Pandey is obstinate that only this title suits his story. We hope that Amitabh's title won't be changed to "Mr. Sach."

Gul Anand tried to be one up on Manmohan Desai by planning a scene, (like Naseeb) for his *Hero Hiralal* where several famous stars come to attend a party. He booked a 5-star hotel, invited several stars and kept Naseeruddin Shah ready with make-up. But not a single star

Behind the Screen

turned up, as they know how Gul uses everyone for his own advantage without giving anything in return. For example, Dimple had refused to act in his *Jalwa*, as he arranged for her stay in a very cheap insecure hotel of Goa. So now the stars have paid him back in the same coin.

Jeetendra recently kept a 40-day vow to wear only saffron clothes, remain barefoot and keep away from drinks, rich food and other pleasures. He keeps this pledge once in a way to pray for bigger success. But should he go to the extreme of

not even signing autographs for girls? In any case, after 40 days, he will be the same old Jeetu again.

Comedian Mehmood has lost so heavily in horse racing at Bangalore that he has to give up his former estate and life of luxury as a star. His sons have also had to settle in small houses in Bombay looking out for work.

Model and TV star Kittu Gidwani has failed to grab any big films. But she recently returned from Paris after doing a

romantic French movie. This has gone not only to her head but also to her lips. At cosy corners, like the garden cafe of Prithvi Theatre, she is caught flirting and even kissing with stage artists. That's a wrong way to try for films, when we see what the other cleverer model Sangeeta Bijlani has achieved.

Swapna from the South who is originally from Punjab is not progressing in her Bombay career. The friendship with director Anil Sharma is also not going smoothly. Producers think she may marry the man any day, so they don't sign her. On the other hand, Sharma's parents won't accept her as a daughter-in-law since she comes from the South.

FAMILY DOCTOR
By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

QUESTION: What is a genetic disease? Can it be cured?
ANSWER: A genetic disease is any condition that is inherited, that is, transmitted through the genes from your parents. Just as you can inherit brown eyes or tallness, you can inherit certain diseases, such as Tay-Sachs, sickle-cell anemia, cystic fibrosis or other conditions.

Genetic diseases should not be confused with birth defects. A birth defect may or may not have been inherited. Some genetic diseases don't show up until years after birth, or, like Huntington's disease, not until middle age, after the affected person already has children and passed on the gene for the disease.

Many genetic illnesses are made worse by environmental factors. An example is phenylketonuria (PKU), where the body can't break down protein normally, and mental retardation results. If a child with PKU is fed a special diet from birth, he or she will grow normally. PKU, like Tay-Sachs, is actually an inherited defect in metabolism.

Genetic diseases are caused by one or more faulty genes. We each get half our genes from our mother and half from our father. Some diseases, such as hypercholesterolemia, are dominant and need only one faulty gene in order for an

GENETIC DISEASES ARE
INHERITED CONDITIONS

affected person to be ill. Other diseases are recessive and the person must inherit a faulty gene from each parent to have it. Getting only one recessive gene means you're a carrier; you're healthy, but can pass the gene on to your children. For some diseases, having one bad gene may mean that, in addition to being a carrier, you have a milder case than if you had inherited both genes. Sex-linked diseases, such as hemophilia and colour blindness, are those that women can carry, but men only can inherit.

When a child inherits a disease, the chances of another child in the family having it vary. In Huntington's disease, half the children in the family inherit the gene and develop the disease. In hemophilia, where the mother carries the gene, half her sons will have hemophilia and half her daughters will be carriers. In a family with sickle-cell anemia and PKU, each child has a 25 per cent risk of inheriting.

No genetic illness can be cured. Hemophiliacs can inject clotting factors and people with PKU can adjust their diet, but they can never get rid of their genes. The best way to deal with genetic disorders is to prevent them through screening. Simple blood tests can detect the gene for sickle-cell anemia. Amniocentesis can detect Tay-

Sachs and other metabolic diseases during a pregnancy. If you suspect you carry a genetic disease, talk to your doctor about genetic counseling, which can help you make decisions about having children.

ACROSS MY DESK: Representatives from health and labour groups met at the Centres for Disease Control headquarters in Atlanta to help formulate new federal guidelines to protect health-care workers against infections from AIDS and other blood-borne diseases. Institutions that fail to comply with these new regulations may face fines of up to \$10,000. When nine documented cases of job-related AIDS in health-care workers came to the attention of the American Nurses Association, it — along with representatives of unions representing health-care workers — requested the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to enact temporary standards designed to protect workers. The guidelines are expected to require that special protective garments be used when contact with body fluids of infected patients is required. But there is controversy here as well, concerning implementation, and enforcement, in the face of a perceived risk that is growing.

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Kittu Gidwani: bad effect of French film



Swapna: no marriage, no roles either

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Economists review functions of research departments

New confidence seen in Kuwait banks

By M.C. Bose

This is the second part of the article "Overall strategic planning process brings new image." The first part appeared in the Arab Times on Wednesday Feb 24.

DR Ziad Taky the chief economist, Economics and Planning Division of the National Bank of Kuwait has said the Economics and Planning Division provides key research, forecasting and market development services which underpin the bank's overall strategic planning process. Throughout the year, it monitors economic and financial trends in Kuwait, the region, and in selected international markets, and provides analyses and market projections for use by NBK's senior management, and bank's clients and correspondents.

The division consists of five main units that include the Domestic Economic Department, Marketing Development department, International Economic department, the Planning Department and the Library and Information Centre.

Trends

Dr Taky said the Domestic Economic Department monitors economic and financial trends in Kuwait and the other GCC countries, identifying new business opportunities and markets in which the bank should reposition itself in view of new economic realities.

Its forecasts of broad domestic trends and key monetary variables are used to formulate the bank's annual business targets and its long-range strategic plan. The domestic and international units produce a range of internationally respected analytical and statistical publications on the Kuwaiti and GCC economies—including the GCC Economic and Financial Bulletin, Kuwait Interim Economic Report, Kuwait and the GCC in Figures and the NBK Currency Monitor.

Operations

Headed by the primary function of the London based International Economic Department is to support and direct the bank's profitable international activities. By constant monitoring of economic and financial developments worldwide, its country risk analyses, rating and exposure limit criteria have successfully contributed to the International Banking Group's marketing, planning and line operations, whilst its comprehensive financial analyses form a valued part of the bank's investment management and treasury decisions.

In addition to its internal role, it freely disseminates specific and financial market information and advice to NBK clients.

The Marketing Development Department had a busy and challenging year, identifying new market opportunities and evaluating the quality of delivery of NBK services and products. It initiated a major project to segment the bank's large customer base in Kuwait and abroad according to social, economic and psychographic profiles, in order to assess how its existing

Kuwait: commercial bank results 1985-86 ¹					
	Total assets	Shareholders' equity	Loans	Net profit	Cash dividend
National Bank of Kuwait	3,031.0	217.5	1,286.8	25.4	20.0
Gulf Bank	2,823.5	201.9	1,256.8	23.0	20.0
Commercial Bank of Kuwait	1,811.1	160.8	986.4	4.4	0.0
	1,820.8	158.4	997.6	0.0	0.0
Commercial Bank of Kuwait	1,587.2	124.5	1,017.1	3.2	0.0
	1,635.7	126.0	970.3	0.0	0.0
Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait	1,493.0	138.2	878.2	4.5	0.0
	1,511.8	117.2	778.2	3.9	5.0
Burgan Bank	1,045.5	157.2	601.8	5.1	0.0
	999.2	152.2	543.9	0.0	0.0
Bank of Kuwait & the Middle East	881.0	82.6	563.9	3.0	0.0
	874.8	79.6	544.4	1.5	0.0
Total	9,848.3	880.8	5,334.2	45.6	20.0
	9,665.8	833.3	5,091.2	28.4	25.0

¹ 1985 figures in italics

Exchange rate: \$1 = KD 0.2712 (April 1987)

Source: Bank statements, spring 1987

products and services match up with NBK's client needs and preferences.

This helped the recently established Product Development Committee to recommend the development of new financial packages for NBK Relationship Banking Officers to use in optimising clients' utilisation of the bank's services.

In conjunction with divisional marketing plans, the department provided analyses of the bank's existing business, and initiated market studies to determine the most appropriate and profitable marketing directions for individual divisions.

Vision

Dr Taky said the Planning Department is responsible for delineating a clear medium- and long-term strategic vision for the overall NBK Group—according to which the bank can streamline its business action plans and achieve optimum operational results. For nearly a decade, NBK's strategic planning capacity has set it apart from most other Arab banks.

It has been largely responsible for the bank's sustained profitability, its orderly international growth and its consolidation of market share in Kuwait and the Gulf. One- and three-year rolling planning cycles emphasise an implementation-oriented approach to growth, and rely on line-management involvement and accountability at each successive stage.

Working under the guidance of the Management Executive Committee, the Planning Department coordinates strategic and business planning, and provides an annual review of the bank's performance and its position in regional and global markets. It contributes to the development of key strategic initiatives such as relationship banking and regional expansion in the Gulf, and continuously analyses vital strategic issues which impact directly on net group profitability.

Dr Taky added the planning function has become deeply ingrained in the National Bank of Kuwait's corporate culture, and promises to maintain the bank's position as one of the Arab world's most innovative, diversified, profitable and trusted financial institutions.

The NBK Library and Information Centre has emerged as one of the most sophisticated business reference centres in the Gulf. It comprises a team of information specialists drawing upon a collection of books, periodicals and reference volumes on issues related to banking and finance, banking automation and investment services.

The centre provides NBK managers and clients with up-to-date news and analyses of relevant financial developments throughout the world, and offers an in-house store of information which bank staff can draw upon to enhance their career development.

In addition, the library is in charge of NBK's Watani Super Service, which provides free, daily updated information, accessible over the telephone, on banking, economic and financial topics of interest to the public at large.

Richard Stutely, chief economist of Kuwait Burgan Bank said: "I tend to avoid the term 'research department', since that has academic overtones. Research for its own sake is fine in the right environment. But Burgan Bank is a commercial organisation, and we never lose sight of the fact that we have commercial objectives. So we prefer to use the term economics department. Of course, economics departments in financial institutions do not usually sell anything, so they cannot make a profit in their own right. Rather, their main job is to support the operations of the bank."

He added it is oversimplistic to say, for example, that the duty of a joint-stock company is to make profits for its shareholders. Per-

haps that may be true in the longer term. But to achieve that aim, it might be necessary to subordinate it in the short-term to some other target, such as maximising asset growth or increasing market share. Moreover, companies often have social objectives, such as to participate in training nationals or to help improve the environment.

Success Banking is a service industry. At Burgan Bank, "we recognise that success depends upon combining the skills of different people. For example, we have different officers who specialise in providing loans and financial advice to individuals, companies and even sovereign countries. We have people who know how to facilitate and promote foreign trade. And we have dealers who know where to obtain the best foreign exchange rate. Economists add another layer of expertise to these skills."

In the same way that accountants analyse the position of individuals and companies, banking economists deal with the finances of a sector of industry, a country, or even the world economy. That is called macroeconomics in our jargon. Of course, "we are also involved in microeconomics (the study of individual decision-making units) but in a more general sense. And our work extends beyond number-crunching and into cultural, social, and political analysis."

Funds

When asked about the specific example, Stutely said: "Suppose that the government of a country asks Burgan Bank for a loan of several hundred million dollars, perhaps to build roads or install a power station. Obviously, no bank wants to, or is able to, commit its own funds in financing the whole of such a large venture. But we have a group of people who know how to set up a syndicate among a group of banks to provide a loan, or how to arrange for the borrower to issue bonds in the world market."

In such an instance, the Economics Department contributes to the decision-making process by analysing the financial, social and political situation of the country.

Comprehensive

"In fact, Burgan Bank Economics has a fairly comprehensive international risk analysis system which attaches a grading to over 50 of the countries that we deal with and enables us to monitor constantly the status of our sovereign clients," he added.

Stutely said: "We also track economic and political developments in the major economies so that we have a longer-term view about what might happen to exchange rates, interest rates and yields, and stock markets. In addition to these financial variables, we are also most interested in what we call the 'real' economy. This is important for us because developments open opportunities for world trade, international business and so on."

As a Kuwaiti bank, we are obviously closely involved with the local economy and what might happen so that we can help clients to conduct their businesses."

"Let me give another example, working from the general to the particular. Our analysis might start with the world economy. From a study of international activity, we could forecast world oil demand for next year. We also know how much petroleum various producers might want to sell. From a relative analysis of oil demand, supply and price (since they are all inter-related) we could estimate how much oil Kuwait can sell, and at what price."

Demand

With a knowledge of Kuwaiti oil revenues, and other trends in government policy, "we can project government spending and aggregate demand in the Kuwaiti economy. This enables us to predict—for example—how many new cars might be sold in this country next year. Moreover, by analysing exchange rates and cost trends in different countries, we can even say how many American, Japanese and German autos might be sold."

He added: "We place stress on original thinking and precise analysis. Then we try to do away with technical language and jargon, and convey our thoughts as simply as possible. Our first objective is help Burgan Bank identify and reach its corporate goals. Our subsidiary aim, no less important, is to promote understanding of the Kuwaiti economy. We hope to be able to publish some analysis in the near future which will add to this understanding, both at home and abroad. We hope that by doing this, we will contribute something, no matter how small, to the continuing prosperity of this excellent country."

Dr Abdul Wahab Al Ameen, adviser and head, economics department of Kuwait Gulf Bank has said the basic objective of a commercial bank management is to maximise profits and minimise costs and in search for profit-maximisation, there

are trade-offs between reduced risk and increased income. Decision making in commercial banks must be done quickly and decisively. The management cycle in every business consists of several steps or procedures such as planning, organising and controlling expected to accomplish a desirable end. Planning is the activity through which a business firm charts its future course of action.

Competitive

He said planning is important because of the competitive environment within which banks operate and their desire to improve efficiently that will result in increased growth and increased return on equity. In the planning process, the first step is a recognition of the bank's resources, its assets, deposits, liquidity, and capital; its acceptance in the society; the expertise of its personnel and its dominance in the marketplace.

The end result of planning is to develop a strategy for utilising the resources of a business within its projected environment so as to attain its overall objectives.

Process

A five-year strategy plan seems to be common, however planning is a continuous process. A strategy is a quantification of ideas. Strategies denote a programme of action and involve the deployment of resources to attain certain objectives.

Establishing objectives is basic to the determination of the bank's policies and will affect the organisational structure of the bank as well as influence the type of personnel employed.

Banks operate in an economic environment, consequently an economic forecast for the next 3-5 years would certainly be helpful in adopting a plan.

Dr Ameen said the bank management must make many assumptions about the future, and project the organisation into that expected environment. It is at this point that the bank's economics department can play an important role in achieving the bank's targets. Assumptions must be made about many economic and financial factors that will impact the bank in the coming months.

The economics department should move quickly and efficiently to submit an executive briefing on the effect of a certain event or measure hoping it will be of use to the management. After evaluating the external forces, bank management turns to the internal qualities of the bank, which is the task of other departments.

Gulf Bank Economics Department has two research units expected to cover local and international markets.

The local markets research unit conducts studies on impact of monetary and fiscal policies on the Kuwaiti economy in general and the banking sector in particular.

The world market research unit conducts studies on specialised country report, FX and interest rates forecasts and world economic developments and forecasts.

Concluded

World Business Summary

Ruder repeats call for market changes

NEW YORK, Feb 24 (AP)—The head of the Securities and Exchange Commission today reiterated SEC proposals for preventing another stock market collapse and stressed his agency was working with futures market regulators rather than engaging in a power struggle. In a speech to an economic outlook conference of the Conference Board, SEC chairman David S. Ruder also indicated his agency was examining ways of reducing volatility of stock prices and trading volume, which he attributed partly to the use of margin in the stock index futures markets.

Ruder repeated his agency's call to examine proposals for increasing coordination between the stock and futures markets and expanding the market's capacity to deal with unprecedented trading volumes. He also emphasised the SEC's "commitment to work closely with other regulators to formulate responses to current market conditions." In testimony to the Senate Banking Committee earlier this month, Ruder had asked for broad new powers over stock-related futures trading, such as changing the level of credit allowed for purchases, early market closings and declaration of temporary trading halts. The proposal was resisted by Kalo Himean, acting chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, in subsequent testimony.

Soviet ministries' staffs cut by half: economist

MOSCOW, Feb 24 (Reuter)—A top Kremlin economic adviser says staff in Soviet government ministries have been cut by an average of 50 per cent as part of economic reforms, the weekly Moscow News said today. Even the State Planning Committee, Gosplan, has slashed its staff by 30 per cent, reformist economist Abel Aganbegyan was quoted as saying in an interview in the paper. He said nearly all administrative bodies in the Soviet Union had revamped their structures as part of the Kremlin campaign to cut back bureaucracy, which employs millions of people. "Of course this is a blow against bureaucracy, but how strong—time will tell," Aganbegyan said. A law requiring 60 per cent of the Soviet Union's enterprises to become self-financing this year has forced many organisations to reduce staff in order to survive. The authorities have made it clear that the state is not prepared to bail out unsuccessful concerns. Aganbegyan said a special government commission on administration had been set up to correct "deviations from the law"—an indication that not everyone was cooperating voluntarily.

There have been many recent media reports of staff reductions in various sectors of the Soviet economy as part of Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev's reforms. But Aganbegyan's statements were the most precise description to date of how the cuts had affected the government bureaucracy.

Soviet authorities have ordered job placement centres to be set up across the country to help people expected to be laid off.

The official policy is that no one should be unemployed as a result of the reforms, but authorities have made it clear that many people will have to find new jobs and may even have to move to different parts of the country.

Some officials have suggested that government bureaucrats could go to work in industry.

The Ukrainian Communist Party paper Pravda Ukrainy said on February 7 that nearly 80,000 bureaucrats had lost their jobs in the republic and added that 1,500 industrial enterprises had been enlarged.

That suggested that many unwanted administrators had been placed in factories.

US leads attack on cheap ICO coffee sales

LONDON, Feb 24 (Reuter)—The United States will express concern about reports of cut-price coffee sales on the world market when the International Coffee Organisation (ICO) board meets this week, US delegate Bruce McMullen said today. "This is a matter of concern, particularly if substantial differentials exist between member and non-member prices—we are suspicious," McMullen said.

The ICO is a trade body of coffee exporters and consuming nations. Its executive board is scheduled to meet in London on Thursday and Friday. ICO rules state that prices should be the same for exports to markets in both member and non-member countries, and that offenders may be penalised by a cut in their allocated export quotas. Dealers say coffee for export to countries that are not ICO members is currently available at prices 25 per cent below those for export to ICO members.

Leading producer delegates attending routine committee meetings ahead of the board session said the United States seemed concerned about large discounts offered by exporting members Mexico, Guatemala and Indonesia. "Producers will expect the US to provide hard evidence of discounted sales," they said. McMullen said the United States was leading the way in combating cheap sales, but added that its concern was shared by other consumers.

Board chairman Bruno Caron of France said he expected a debate on discount sales and any infringement of ICO price rules would be dealt with in time by a special committee.

London cocoa prices dip

LONDON, Feb 24 (Reuter)—Cocoa prices dipped to a five-year low this morning but rallied slightly by midday, inching back over a psychologically important market level of £1,000 a tonne. It was the first time that the price had fallen into triple figures since December 9 and today's early decline took cocoa for March delivery down to £996 a tonne—its lowest since early 1983 and almost £20 down on Tuesday's close. Traders said the market had been dominated recently by sellers, but had rallied after some players who had been caught short with contracts to fill entered the market as buyers.

Traders said market sentiment generally was being dampened by speculation that a cocoa producer-proposed scheme to hold 120,000 tonnes of the commodity back from the market was unlikely to be accepted at a meeting of the International Cocoa Organisation Council next week. This opinion followed what traders described as an unsuccessful buffer stock buying operation this week. Cocoa futures prices have declined by around £150 a tonne since the latest round of buffer stock purchasing began on January 19 for 75,000 tonnes. Despite a total 250,000 tonnes being taken from the market for the ICCO buffer stock, including 100,000 from the previous pact and 75,000 bought last year, the world cocoa balance is expected to be in heavy over-supply in 1987-88, traders said.

US lends Argentina \$500m

WASHINGTON, Feb 24 (AP)—The United States announced yesterday that it was supplying \$500 million in short-term financing to Argentina while the South American country worked out arrangements for a longer term loan with the International Monetary Fund. The treasury department made the announcement of the loan, which would be the second such borrowing Argentina has done in the past five months. In November, Argentina received another \$500 million bridge loan from the United States and 14 other countries which it paid back in January after it received further money from the IMF. In a statement announcing the new loan, the Treasury Department said, "the willingness of the United States to provide this financing indicates our support for Argentina's economic programme to achieve sustainable growth and a viable balance of payments position."

The statement said that the United States "commends Argentina's efforts to implement stabilisation and reform policies with the support of the international financial community."

US energy situation better, says Herrington

WASHINGTON, Feb 24 (Reuter)—US energy supplies and prices are becoming more secure after years of instability, Energy Secretary James Herrington said today.

"The United States enjoys a much more secure energy environment than was the case years ago when first Opec and then the Iranian revolution convulsed world energy markets and exposed serious shortcomings in our nation's energy policies and practices," Herrington told a House of Representatives committee.

"Energy costs are lower and a measure of stability in energy markets has emerged. We are using energy from a greater variety of sources than ever before," he added.

Imports

But Herrington said US oil imports were increasing, including imports from the Gulf.

To increase energy security, the United States should begin exploration of the Arctic national wildlife refuge in Alaska and end price controls on natural gas, Herrington said.

He urged doubling the fill rate of the US Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) from 30,000 to 100,000 barrels a day if Congress approved the sale of two naval oil reserves.

S. Korea rapidly expanding trade with Soviet Union

TOKYO, Feb 24 (Reuter)—With the help of Japanese companies, South Korea is rapidly expanding unofficial trade with the Soviet Union, despite official coolness between the two capitalist and communist nations, Japanese sources said today.

Japanese firms are playing a key role, providing front companies in the Philippines, Australia and other countries to manage the trade, said a Japanese source.

"Bilateral trade is expected to rise to \$1.5 billion a year from 400 million to 500 million now after the Seoul Summer Olympics," said the professor from a Central Tokyo University, who declined to be named.

There was no confirmation of the report from Seoul.

Officials confined themselves

to saying: "We have some indirect trade exchanges with the Soviet Union but the volume is very small at present."

They said South Korea clearly wanted formal trade ties with Moscow, and hoped that this year's Seoul Olympics would help break down trade barriers.

Repercussions because of Communist North Korea. Seoul already has strong trade ties with China, which South Korean President Chun Doo Hwan said could lead to full diplomatic ties soon.

China and the Soviet Union are the main allies of Seoul's enemies in the Communist North. But the Soviets, unlike China, have officially been more distant from South Korea.

This month, Ludwig Chizhov, director of the Soviet Depart-

ment of Pacific and Southeast Asian Affairs told reporters in Tokyo that Moscow did not intend to change its policy toward South Korea, despite its recent decision to participate in the Seoul Summer Olympics.

The Soviets may also see trade with South Korea as one way to get round economic restrictions on sensitive technology products to communist nations, the sources said.

South Korea, which has given high priority to opening trade with Communist countries, agreed with Hungary last year to exchange resident trade missions.

One of the country's biggest car makers, Kia Motor, said on Tuesday it was negotiating with Hungary and China to set up joint-venture car plants there.

US Central Bank gives itself high marks

WASHINGTON, Feb 24 (Reuter)—The outlook for the US economy and inflation may be clouded but Federal Reserve Board chairman Alan Greenspan for one is clearly pleased with how his central bank is coping.

His first semi-annual report to Congress since he succeeded Paul Volcker last August held out the prospect of a sixth year of economic expansion, millions of new jobs and a drop in the US trade deficit.

At the same time, like any central banker, he called for vigilance against inflation.

Optimistic

The Fed is not known for smugness. But Greenspan's report came close to it in a passage discussing the efforts of the Federal Open Market Committee, the bank's policy-making panel, to maintain economic expansion while keeping inflation down and narrowing the huge US trade gap.

"For 1988, committee members generally were optimistic that policy would be geared to meeting these goals. Most members foresee continued economic growth... with no significant pick-up in inflation," the report said.

Members of the House Banking Committee seemed quite happy with Greenspan's testimony and spared him a grilling. The financial markets reacted positively, too.

Japan's venture into oil futures trading backfires

TOKYO, Feb 24 (Reuter)—Many Japanese trading houses and oil companies, traditionally averse to taking risks, are having to cut staff after losing billions of dollars on speculative oil trading last year.

"Japanese companies lost their shirts last year," said one international oil trader today.

One oil analyst blamed US banks for encouraging oil companies to trade heavily in volatile oil futures, especially on the New York Mercantile Exchange (Nymex) where prospective buyers and sellers can hedge or speculate on the price of the commodity some time in the future.

Experience

The trouble was many Japanese traders guessed wrong and did not have the futures market experience to cut their losses.

"It was a glorious con," the analyst said.

"The oil industry was beautifully coaxed by the investment banks who not only wrote and gave seminars on the subject, but participated themselves," he said.

"They created a whole new activity for the oil industry," he said. "Some oil companies got excited, they thought it was a whole new world and stopped behaving like oil companies."

He said Japanese companies went into the futures market geared up by the feeling that the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) had the oil markets under control by mid-1987.

"The view was that oil prices would go racing up to \$21 a barrel by the end of the year," he said.

"They hedged or speculated in the context of the market going up and it just hasn't happened," said the analyst.

KAC team to visit Egypt

A DELEGATION of Kuwait Airways Corporation (KAC) is due to visit Egypt to discuss ways of enhancing touristic relations between the two countries.

The board chairman and managing director of KAC, Ahmed Al Misbari, told Kuna yesterday that the delegation's visit follows the one paid by Finance Minister Jasssem Mohammed Al Kborani last January in which discussions tackled bilateral cooperation in touristic fields.

"The dollar's up, bonds are up and stocks are steady—I don't see how they can be other than pleased," said Jim O'Neill of Marine Midland Bank in New York.

But Charles Taylor of Prudential-Bache Securities in Washington said recent market calm was deceptive.

He was worried that another flight out of the dollar and US assets could start if the Fed abruptly eased its grip on credit.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25-26, 1988

LONDON
(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST	065.0
ABBIE LFE	250/0	98.69
ALD LTONS	342/0	337.0
AMSTRAD	153/0	373/0
ARSTLL GP	193/0	513.0
ASDA MFI	169/0	397/0
A B FOODS	287/0	305.0
BAA PP	102/0	270/0
BTR	265/0	272.0
BAT INDS	432/0	245/0
BARCLAYS	485.0	620/0
BASS	793/0	233.0
BEAZER	197.0	184.0
BEECHAMS	462/0	250/0
BET ORD	242/0	235.0
BICC PLC	333/0	250/0
BLUE ARRY	94/4	250/0
BLUE CIRC	438/0	250/0
BOD GP	404/0	250/0
BODS CO	221/0	250/0
BR INDS	273.0	250/0
BR INDS	288/0	250/0
BR AIRWAY	161/0	250/0
BR AEROSP	352/0	250/0
BR GAS PP	130.0	250/0
B.P.	56.12	250/0
B.P.NEV	64.0	250/0
BR TELCOM	241/0	250/0
BRITOL	499/0	250/0
BUNZL	170/0	250/0
BURMAN OL	487.0	250/0
BURTON	228/0	250/0
CABLESWIR	347/0	250/0
CADBURYS	257.0	250/0
COATS VTY	248/0	250/0
COMINT	318/0	250/0
CONS GOLD	790/0	250/0
COOKSONS	544.0	250/0
COURTAULD	318/0	250/0
DALGETY	287/0	250/0
DEE CP	178.0	250/0
DIXONS	193/0	250/0
ENG CHINA	398.0	250/0
ENTER OIL	307.0	250/0
FERRARINI	79.0	250/0
FISONS	52.00	250/0
GEN ACCIO	865.0	250/0
GEN ELEC	154.0	250/0
GLAXO	042/0	250/0
GRAMADA	322.0	250/0
GLOBE	140.0	250/0
GRAND NET	462/0	250/0
GUS A	085.0	250/0
GUARD RYL	885/0	250/0
GUN	316.0	250/0
GUINNESS	283/0	250/0
HANSON	543/0	250/0
HAKER SID	495/0	250/0
HAWLEY	105/4	250/0
HILLSDON	292/0	250/0

LONDON
(Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
ABBIE LFE	250/0	98.69
ALD LTONS	342/0	337.0
AMSTRAD	153/0	373/0
ARSTLL GP	193/0	513.0
ASDA MFI	169/0	397/0
A B FOODS	287/0	305.0
BAA PP	102/0	270/0
BTR	265/0	272.0
BAT INDS	432/0	245/0
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BR AEROSP	352/0	250/0
BR GAS PP	130.0	250/0
B.P.	56.12	250/0
B.P.NEV	64.0	250/0
BR TELCOM	241/0	250/0
BRITOL	499/0	250/0
BUNZL	170/0	250/0
BURMAN OL	487.0	250/0
BURTON	228/0	250/0
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GUARD RYL	885/0	250/0
GUN	316.0	250/0
GUINNESS	283/0	250/0
HANSON	543/0	250/0
HAKER SID	495/0	250/0
HAWLEY	105/4	250/0
HILLSDON	292/0	250/0

World Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-OATS/2	PREV-DR	PREV-TR
FT 30 IND	1417.0	1410.3	1396.3	1373.3
FT 500 SHR	0	994.7	988.0	957.6
FT ALL SHR	0	3.74	97.46	870.22
FT GOV SEC	89.76	89.62	89.74	88.49
FT GOLD MN	254.8	262.0	263.5	302.1
FT MINES F	0	432.29	432.09	450.63
FT OIL	0	1744.1	1743.4	1663.6
FT MLD DLR	123.06	122.58	121.09	115.04
FT MLD STG	0	102.97	102.64	90.79
FT MLD LOC	109.81	109.59	108.72	99.08

London Stock Market Report

U.K. STOCKS MIXED TO FIRM IN LATE LONDON TRADING. LONDON, FEB 24 - SHARES STOOD MIXED IN LATE TRADING WITH A SIMILAR OPENING ON WALL STREET PROVIDING LITTLE FRESH INCENTIVE, DEALERS SAID.

THE FTSE 100 STOOD 3.1 POINTS UP AT 1,761.0 AT 1530 GMT COMPARED TO LAST FRIDAY'S CLOSE OF 1,729.8. VOLUME AGAIN TURNED LOW AFTER SLIGHTLY MORE RESPECTABLE TURNOVER YESTERDAY, WITH JUST 247 MLN SHARES TRADED BY 1500 GMT. THERE WAS SOME DISAPPOINTMENT THAT NEW YORK'S MARKET HAD AGAIN FAILED TO BREAK ABOVE ITS POST-CRASH DOM JONES INDUSTRIAL AVERAGE HIGH OF 2,052.

THE FTSE 100 TOUCHED A LOW OF 1,755.2 AT 0934 IN REACTION TO 1987 RESULTS FROM BARCLAYS BANK.

THE MARKET SHOWED AN INITIAL BAD REACTION TO THE BARCLAYS'S FIGURES, WHICH SHOWED A 62 PCT FALL IN PRE-TAX PROFITS TO 339 MLN STG AFTER 895 MLN IN 1986. HOWEVER, A LATER REASSESSMENT OF THE DATA SAW BARCLAYS IN A NEB 9P HIGHER AT 483 AFTER A LOW OF 475.

DEALERS SAID ALTHOUGH BARCLAYS PROFITS WERE LOWER THAN FORECAST, THIS WAS DUE TO A RISE IN DEBT PROVISIONS FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO 713 MLN STG, WHICH COMPARED WITH ANALYSTS FORECASTS OF AROUND 580 MLN.

BARCLAYS SAID ITS PROVISIONS NOW STOOD AT 35 PCT OF EXPOSURE COMPARED TO 33 PCT AT NOVEMBER AND 29 PCT AT MIDLAND. NATWEST ROSE 11P TO 561 AND MIDLAND 3P TO 393.

London Gold

LONDON, FEB 24 - GOLD BULLION SETTLED DOWN TO TRADE IN A FAIRLY TIGHT RANGE DURING LATE AFTERNOON BUSINESS AFTER EARLIER FALLING SHARPLY TO ITS LOWEST LEVEL SINCE APRIL 1987. DEALERS SAID SHORT COVERING BY PROFESSIONALS HELPED THE METAL BOUNCE OFF ITS LOW OF 431.50/432.50 DLR AN OUNCE.

GOLD ENDED THE DAY AT 435.20/435.70, LITTLE CHANGED FROM ITS AFTERNOON FIX OF 435.75 BUT SHARPLY BELOW TUESDAY'S CLOSE OF 442.25/442.75.

SELLING BY PRODUCERS AND PROFESSIONALS CONTRIBUTED TO THE INITIAL DECLINE, WITH STOPS TRIGGERED BY THE FALL THROUGH SUPPORT AT 440 AND 435 DLR.

London Money Market

LONDON, FEB 24 - U.K. MONEY MARKET RATES FINISHED LARGELY UNCHANGED FROM LAST NIGHT'S CLOSE AFTER AN EXCEPTIONALLY QUIET AND FEATURELESS DAY, DEALERS SAID.

ACTIVITY WAS LIMITED TO THE OVERNIGHT MARKET. "EVEN THOUGH THE SHORTAGE OF 350 MLN STG WAS NOT LARGE AND TAKEN UP IN THE AFTERNOON, THE (OVERNIGHT) RATE CONTINUED UP TO 10 PCT," ONE DEALER COMMENTED.

BUSINESS ELSEWHERE IN THE MARKET WAS SLOW. "THERE'S NO TRADING AND NO MONEY BEING MADE," HE ADDED.

THE KEY THREE MONTH INTERBANK RATE CLOSED UNCHANGED FOR THE SECOND SUCCESSIVE DAY AT 9-5/16 3/16 PCT.

Foreign Exchange

DLR	STG	DMK	FFR	OPR
STG 1.7660/1	1.6955/65	2.9890/9930	5.7265/85	NOON
DMK 1.6891/6971	2.984/998	337.9/338.55	29.48/64	FIX
FFR 5.721/7330	10.1095/1275	82.17/28	24.30/33	1300
SFR 1.3920/3930	2.4579/4610	112.23	33.175	FIX
NFL 1.8995	3.3565	2.06614	6.98828	NOON
ECU 1.21997	0.691080	2.29944	7.78169	CLSE
SDR 1.35901	0.769324			
YEN 128.80/90	227.46/77			
SDR RATES	23/02/1988	OTHERS	24/02/1988	

Morgan Stanley Capital International Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-OATS/2	PREV-DR	PREV-TR
AUSTRALIA	247.7	244.8	243.7	259.3
AUSTRIA	198.7	200.3	200.5	215.4
BELGIUM	331.0	329.0	328.4	260.2
CANADA	351.5	352.9	349.2	350.7
DENMARK	370.2	368.4	368.2	336.6
FRANCE	312.3	316.3	310.6	288.5
GERMANY	167.4	166.0	164.1	156.6
HONG KONG	1636.7	1651.3	1635.7	1644.3
FINLAND	101.5	102.1	0	0
ITALY	377.9	370.6	369.6	0
JAPAN	1207.4	1202.9	1199.1	0
NETHERLANDS	235.9	235.0	233.7	0
NEW ZEAL	81.8	81.4	0	0
NORWAY	437.9	431.3	419.8	0
SPAIN	501.3	504.0	496.0	0
SWEDEN	828.1	827.2	819.8	0
SWITZ	151.9	150.8	150.9	0
U.K.	532.2	528.7	523.8	0
U.S.A.	244.8	245.5	242.0	0
WORLD	434.3	433.1	427.6	0
E.A.F.E.	807.4	802.5	793.1	0

Consumer Loans

* Borrow up to 10 times your salary

* Low Interest Rate * Repayment up to 36 months

Commercial Bank

البنك التجاري

NEW YORK

NAME	OPEN	MID-OAY
A BSCH COM	32/2	32/2
ATLANTIC R	78/4	78/6
AAR CORP	22/4	22/7
AETNA LIFE	48/3	48/4
ALCAN ALUM	16/7	16/5
ALCO STAND	28/0	28/0
AMER CYANA	23/6	23/7
AM ELE PWR	28/5	28/6
AM HOM PRO	78/2	78/4
AM STORES	59/3	59/2
AMER T T	29/5	29/6
AMAX	17/6	18/1
AMCO CP	76/4	76/5
AMP INC	50/1	50/1
AMPCO PITT	14/5	14/6
AMR CORP	38/6	38/7
AM GEN CO	33/7	34/1
ANDRA HESS	28/7	28/7
ANTHEM ELE	11/2	11/1
APACHE CO	8/3	8/4
APACHE PET	4/1	4/2
ARMCO INC	11/3	11/3
ASARCO INC	21/6	21/7
ASHLAND OIL	59/4	59/4
ATLS CORP	34/0	34/3
AVERT INC	22/2	22/4
AVNET INC	27/2	26/7
AVON PRODS	24/3	24/4
BCE INC	30/0	30/0
BELL-HOM	62/4	62/4
BELL-HOM A	0	62/3
BETH STEEL	19/2	19/2
BEVERLY	6/2	6/4
BANK BOSTON	25/4	25/3
BANK BOSTON	49/7	49/7
BANK BOSTON	0	31/7
BANK BOSTON	60/7	60/7
BANK BOSTON	42/2	42/2
BANK BOSTON	27/5	27/7
BANK BOSTON	83/4	82/1
BANK BOSTON	99/6	99/7
BANK BOSTON	14/6	14/7
BANK BOSTON	15/0	15/0
BANK BOSTON	27/2	27/1
BANK BOSTON	42/4	42/6
BANK BOSTON	31/1	31/3
BANK BOSTON	44/5	44/6
BANK BOSTON	20/0	20/2
BANK BOSTON	14/6	14/6
BANK BOSTON	11/2	11/2
BANK BOSTON	0	34/1
BANK BOSTON	24/5	24/6
BANK BOSTON	19/6	19/7
BANK BOSTON	14/2	14/3
BANK BOSTON	20/5	20/7
BANK BOSTON	23/4	23/4
BANK BOSTON	163/3	163/2
BANK BOSTON	40/7	40/7
BANK BOSTON	2/2	2/3
BANK BOSTON	34/6	34/7
BANK BOSTON	12/1	12/2
BANK BOSTON	4/4	4/5
BANK BOSTON	23/7	23/7
BANK BOSTON	35/7	35/7
BANK BOSTON	23/3	23/3
BANK BOSTON	44/7	44/7
BANK BOSTON	25/0	24/2
BANK BOSTON	61/1	61/2
BANK BOSTON	7/2	7/3
BANK BOSTON	46/6	46/6
BANK BOSTON	24/3	24/3
BANK BOSTON	22/5	22/5
BANK BOSTON	13/1	13/1
BANK BOSTON	20/7	20/7
BANK BOSTON	25/7	25/7
BANK BOSTON	29/6	29/6
BANK BOSTON	1/6	1/5
BANK BOSTON	28/7	28/7
BANK BOSTON	17/5	17/5
BANK BOSTON	7/0	6/7
BANK BOSTON	29/4	29/7
BANK BOSTON	38/5	38/5
BANK BOSTON	3/0	2/7
BANK BOSTON	35/2	35/4
BANK BOSTON	43/7	43/6
BANK BOSTON	12/1	12/0
BANK BOSTON	33/0	33/0
BANK BOSTON	28/0	28/2
BANK BOSTON	24/7	24/6
BANK BOSTON	45/5	45/5
BANK BOSTON	39/2	39/6
BANK BOSTON	008	008
BANK BOSTON	35/0	35/3
BANK BOSTON	25/5	25/4
BANK BOSTON	34/4	34/4
BANK BOSTON	11/2	11/2
BANK BOSTON	56/0	56/1
BANK BOSTON	26/2	26/5
BANK BOSTON	81/0	80/6
BANK BOSTON	6/3	6/3
BANK BOSTON	7/4	7/4
BANK BOSTON	27/6	27/5
BANK BOSTON	4/0	4/0
BANK BOSTON	38/1	37/7
BANK BOSTON	126/7	126/7
BANK BOSTON	42/1	41/5
BANK BOSTON	47/4	47/4
BANK BOSTON	11/0	10/7
BANK BOSTON	46/7	47/0
BANK BOSTON	61/4	60/5
BANK BOSTON	62/0	61/6
BANK BOSTON	87/1	86/6
BANK BOSTON	33/2	32/7
BANK BOSTON	28/2	28/3
BANK BOSTON	29/4	29/4
BANK BOSTON	46/5	46/6
BANK BOSTON	50/4	50/4
BANK BOSTON	86/5	86/1
BANK BOSTON	13/3	13/3

International Bond Highlights

London — Ford Motor Credit Co., a unit of Ford Motor Co., is issuing a 250 mln dir Eurobond due March 22, 1991 paying eight pct and priced at 101-1/8 pct, lead manager Goldman Sachs International Corp said. (RTTG 1433)

London — Belgium's office Central da Credit Hypothecaire is issuing a 150 mln dir Eurobond due March 23, 1993, paying 8-1/2 pct and priced at 101-1/2 pct, Banque Paribas capital markets said as lead manager. (RTTF 1438)

London — Nationwide Anglia Building Society is raising primary capital via 115 mln stg of floating rate notes for sale in Japan, director Brian Phillips said. (RTLL 1458)

London — Anz Bank Canada is issuing a 65 mln Australian dir Eurobond due April 8, 1993 paying 13-1/8 pct and priced at 101-7/8 pct, lead manager Anz Merchant Bank Ltd said. (RTXE 0950)

Frankfurt — Nel borrowing in mark bonds, which takes both new issues and redemptions into account, fell sharply last month to 12.6 billion marks from 20.6 billion in January 1987, the Bundesbank said. (RCMH 1423).

Interbank Rates

CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN 9 8-3/4	8-15/16 13/16	9-5/16 3/16
FF 3.25/35	3.25/30	3.30/35
PAR 7-1/16 3/16	7-5/16 7/16	7-9/16 11/16
ZUR 1/8 3/8	1-1/4 1-1/2	1-5/8 1-7/8
BRX 2.70	6-1/4 3/8	6-1/4 3/8
ROM 10 10-1/2	10-7/8 11-3/8	10-7/8 11-3/8
AMS 4-0/0 4-1/8	4-0/0 4-1/8	4-0/0 4-1/8
TOK 3.3125 3750	3.8750 9575	3.7500 8125
EDU 6.06 6.31	6.12 6.25	6.37 6.50

Interest Rates

FOLLOWING are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	4-15/16	5-3/8
3 months	4-15/16	5-7/16
6 months	5-1/16	5-9/16
1 year	5-1/16	5-9/16

BOMBAY

	PR. CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	65	64.50		65	NICO	510	510	510
ACC	151	149	144	GRFC	31.50	30.75	31.50	MUKAND	76	75	76	76
ADIA PAINT	148.75	145	145	GRASIM	87.50	87.50	87	OKC	440	436.25	430	430
BAJAJ AUTO	392.50	391.25	396.25	WIND LEVER	99	99	98	ORF	18	18	19	19
BAR. RAYON	152.50	150	150	WINDALCO	67	67	67	PEICO	27	26.50	27	27
BOM. DYNAL	125.50	124.75	126.25	WINDOCCO	120.50	120	120	PFIZER	69	68	69	69
BR. BOND	79	78	79.50	WINDMOTOR	78.25	76.25	75	PRA. AUTO	26	25.75	25	25
BSE INDEX	406.36	406.83	410.00	IND ORG	19.75	20.25	20	RAYMOND	47	45.50	45	45
CENTURYSPG	657.50	650	652.50	INDRAYON	18	18	17.50	RELIANCE	87	86	86	86
COLGATE	191.25	192.50	191.25	INDROL	49	49.50	50	SIEMENS	68.50	66	67	67
DEEPAKPERT	30.50	29	29.50	ITC	172.50	172.50	175	SPIC	31	31.50	31	31
EI. HOTEL	43	41	42	JCSYNTH	32	31.50	32	STONHILLS	240	237.50	230	230
ESSAYE	195	195	195.25	JKSYNTH	50.50	48	51	TATA PUR	177.50	177.50	178.50	178.50
ESSAR	18	18	18	L AND T	77.50	77.50	78	TATACHEN	63	62.50	63	63
GAR. POLY	80	78.50	78	MAHINDRA	54.25	54	52.50	TELCO	357.50	357.50	355	355
GE. SHIP	24	23.50	23.75	MASTERSHR	9.28	9.25	9	TISCO	592.50	587.50	588.75	588.75
				NATHER PL	102.50	95	98.75	VOLTA	262.50	255	260	260

FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE
AEG	225.0
ALLIANZ VR	137.0
BADENWERK	175.5
BASF	243.5
BAYER	263.0
BAYER HYP	338.0
BAYER VER	338.0
BBC	299.0
BFI	323.5
BHW	532.0
CHEMIE-VER	0
COMMERZB	228.5
CONTI GUM	221.0
DAIMLER BEN	677.0
DEUTSC BK	429.5
DLW	313.0
DRESNER B	244.5
FAG INDEX	451.03
GOLDSCHEID	252.5
GUTHRIE	0
HANSEATIC	399.0
HANSEATIC AG	359.0
HOESCH	109.3
HORTEN	172.0
HUSSEL HLD	433.0
KALI SALZ	126.0
KARSTADT	411.9
KAUFHOP	369.0
KLOECK H	93.0
KLOECK W	0
LIHDE	567.0
LUFTHANSA	140.5
MAN	161.3
MANHESMAN	126.1
MERCEDES	533.0
METALLGES	212.0
NIXDORF PF	536.0
NORSK HYD	47.00
PHILIP KON	644.0
POKSCHE	475.0
PREUSSAG	123.9
RHM	200.5
RHEIN	214.0
RHEIN P	208.5
RHEINMETAL	255.5
SALAMANDER	260.0
SCHERING	442.0
SEL	331.0
SIEMENS	390.0
THYSEN	125.5
VARTA	250.0
VERA	256.5
VEW	163.2
VOLKSWAGEN	238.5

HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE
C N TUNNEL	14.00
CHEUNG K	6.50
CHINA GAS	15.30
CHINA L-P	18.10
CHINA MOTR	16.60
COMPO PROP	4.30
EVEREST IND	32
FAR EAST C	67
GEN ORIENT	44.00
H C DEVELOP	8.20
H S INDEX	336.00
HANG LUNG	4.25
HANG SENG	28.40
HAN PAR BR	0
HK ELEC CO	7.65
HK KOLMOON	5.90
HK LAND CO	6.85
HK SHAN BK	6.85
HK SHAN NT	3.57
HK TELE CO	7.30
HUTCH WHAN	7.50
IND EO PAC	6.85
JARDINE M	10.30
KOALCOON M	10.50
NEW WORLD	8.05
PAUL Y CON	1.58
REALTY DEV	5.30
S N K CO	1.53
S N K PROP	8.50
SINE DARY	1.35
STELLUM MFG	5.00
SHIRE PAC	15.60
T Y B CO	12.80
TAI CHEUNG	2.92
UNIT BANK	1.57
WOCK HAD	0
WOCK MARI	0
WORLD INTL	2.80

TOKYO

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE	HITSUB CP	1250	1250
AJUNIMOTO	3390	3430	HITSUB EL	638
AKAI ELEC	520	530	HITSUB HYV	625
AKI	995	975	HITSUBI CO	770
ASANI GAS	1900	1910	HITSUKOSHI	1690
ASARI OPT	576	580	HITACHI	1340
BANK TOKYO	1500	1490	WIKON CHMT	811
BRIDGESTON	1410	1400	WIKO SEC	2000
CANON	1060	1050	NIP ELEC	2000
CASIO CORP	1240	1240	NIP KKKAN	329
CHUGAI MNG	0	1710	NIP DIL	1180
CITIZEN W	585	583	NIP STEEL	425
O-CHI KAM	3190	3180	NIP YUSEN	564
DAI NIP IK	799	796	NIS TORIN	829
DAI NIP PT	2610	2620	NOBURA SEC	3830
DAI NIP SC	982	980	OHBA CO	1080
DAI NIP TO	490	485	OLYMPIA	1130
DAI NIP TO	813	818	PENTA OCH	850
DAIWA H	1770	1800	PIONEER	2810
DAIWA SEC	2600	2560	RENOVAL	820
EBRA MFG	851	840	RICOH	1210
EISAI	2450	2450	SANKYO	2130
FUJITSU	1450	1490	SEIKI SUI PB	1920
FUJI BANK	3370	3370	SHARP	964
FUJI PHOTO	4020	4080	SHISEIDO	1730
FUJISAWA	2010	2040	SONY	4830
FUJITA CP	741	753	SUNITOMO	1140
HITACHI	1270	1300	TAISEI	992
HONDA MOT	1470	1440	TAISEI MRM	1190
ISSETAN	1400	1450	TAKEDA CH	3120
ITO YOKADO	4220	4270	TEIJIH	803
JAP SUN RU	1070	983	TKO NEW IX	50.29
JAPAN AIR	14200	14000	TOKIO MRM	2050
JAPAN MET	428	426	TOKYO ELEC	1180
KANSAI	1570	1570	TOKYO GAS	1070
KANSAI EL	2940	2940	TOKYO PWR	5900
KAO SOAP	1910	1940	TORAY IND	804
KAWASAKI H	316	323	TOSHIBA EL	765
KAWASAKI S	369	366	TOTO	2280
KIRIN BEV	2300	2300	TOYO KKOY	430
KOMATSU	606	608	TOYOTA MOT	2140
KUBOTA LTD	590	590	YAMAHA	1060
KYOCERA	5450	5490	YAMAZAKI	1520
MAKITA EL	1840	1820		
MARUI	3140	3170		
MATSUITA E	2300	2350		
MATSUITA EL	2280	2250		
MEIJI SEIK	920	920		

Tokyo Stock Market Report

TOKYO STOCKS CLOSE FIRM IN ACTIVE TRADE
TOKYO, FEB 24 — SHARE PRICES CLOSED FIRM IN HEAVY VOLUME BLOATED BY BUYING OF LARGE CAPITALISATION SHARES, MARKING THE 10TH CONSECUTIVE RISE IN THE NIKKEI INDEX, BROKERS SAID.
"THINGS LOOK GOOD IN THE NEAR TERM," SAID BROKER YOZO ASAI OF YAMATCHI SECURITIES. BUT BOUTS OF SELLING TODAY AND TUESDAY MAY SHOW THAT THE MARKET IS IN FOR A CORRECTION, HE SAID.
THE NIKKEI AVERAGE ROSE 19.20 POINTS, OR 0.08 PCT, TO 24,968.65, AFTER A LOW OF 24,913.70 AND A HIGH OF 25,012.90. IT ROSE 102.74 POINTS ON TUESDAY. ADVANCES MATCHED DECLINES IN TURNOVER OF 1.1 BILLION SHARES, THE LARGEST VOLUME SINCE OCTOBER 22 LAST YEAR, AND UP FROM 850 MLN ON TUESDAY.
SECURITIES HOUSE, COMMUNICATIONS, GAS, BANK, PULP/PAPER, REAL ESTATE, AUTO, TRUCKING, OIL AND AIRLINE SHARES GAINED. CREDIT/LEASE, RETAIL, ELECTRONIC, RAILWAY/BRUS, PHARMACEUTICAL, WAREHOUSE, SERVICE AND SOME MANUFACTURING ISSUES FELL.
BROKERS SAID THE FACT THAT THE INDEX TEMPORARILY CLEARED THE 25,000-POINT MARK FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE OCTOBER CRASH BOOSTED SENTIMENT.
ADVANCES IN THE PAST 10 SESSIONS TOTAL 1,306.38 POINTS.
"THE MARKET HASN'T GAINED FOR 10 STRAIGHT DAYS IN TWO YEARS," SAID A FUND MANAGER FROM THE BANK OF TOKYO.
"THERE HAS BEEN A PSYCHOLOGICAL CHANGE," THE BANK OF TOKYO FUND MANAGER SAID. "BEFORE, FUND MANAGERS LAID LOW IN A BID TO BREAK EVEN. NOW THAT THERE IS PRESSURE TO PERFORM, THEY HAVE TO GO IN AND BUY."
TRADING CONCENTRATED ON STEEL, HEAVY MACHINERY MAKERS AND OTHER LARGE CAPITALISATION ISSUES, WITH THE TOP 10 TRADED STOCKS ACCOUNTING FOR OVER 40 PCT OF TODAY'S VOLUME.
AMONG THESE WERE KAWASAKI STEEL, WHICH ROSE THREE YEN TO 369, NIPPON STEEL, UP TWO TO 425, AND ISHIKAWAJIMA-HARIMA HEAVY INDUSTRIES, WHICH SLIPPED THREE TO 705.

Hong Kong Market Report

HONG KONG, FEB 24 — SHARE PRICES CLOSED SLIGHTLY HIGHER IN SLUGGISH TRADING IN THE ABSENCE OF FRESH INCENTIVES, BROKERS SAID.
THE HANG SENG INDEX ROSE 6.65 POINTS TO FINISH AT 2,336 AFTER LOSING SOME 13 POINTS INITIALLY. THE BROADER BASED HONG KONG INDEX GAINED FIVE POINTS TO 1,529.30.
TURNOVER WAS A MEAGRE 451.55 MLN N.K. DLRS AGAINST 533.28 MLN ON TUESDAY.
BROKERS SAID MOST INVESTORS WERE Sidelined AS SELLING CAME MAINLY FROM OVERSEAS INSTITUTIONS. BUT HK TELECOM AND HUTCHISON/CHEUNG KONG ATTRACTED SOME BARGAIN HUNTING.

AMMAN

AMMAN	OPNG	CLSG
AL HIMME MINERALS	0.79	0.79
AL-HISER EXCHANGE	0.89	0.90
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY	1.34	1.34
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	1.91	1.93
ARAB BANK	118.9	118.5
ARAB CHEMICAL OTER	4.39	4.36
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	1.47	1.48
ARAB INSURANCE	1.00	1.00
ARAB INT. INV/TRADE	---	---
ARAB INT. UNION INS	0.95	0.96
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	0.53	0.58
ARAB JOR/INVT/BK	2.09	2.10
ARAB PAPER COM/TRA	0.36	0.35
ARAB PHARMA. MANF.	2.09	2.08
ARAB PHARMA/CHEM	0.76	0.75
ARABIAN SEAS INC.	1.65	1.65
BANK OF JORDAN	16.32	16.32
BEELIUM INSURANCE	1.00	0.95
CAIRO AMMAN BANK	29.00	29.00
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	0.42	0.41
DAR ALDAWA OV/INV.	1.49	1.47
DARDO/INVEST/HOUS.	0.44	0.44
DEVELOP/INVT/FAS.	0.62	0.62
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR	0.62	0.62
GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39	2.63
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.30	1.30
GENERAL MINING.	1.50	1.50
HOLY LAND INS.	1.15	1.20
IND./MATCH JENCO	0.73	0.73
INDSTR. DEVLPT BHK	1.29	1.30
INDSTR./COM/AGR.	1.49	1.49
INDUSTRIAL/INVT/CH	---	---
INTERCOM. ELECTRIC	0.64	0.64
IRBID ELECTRICITY	0.97	0.98
ISLAMI INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64
J. PRESS FOUNDATION	3.50	3.20
JERUSALEM INS.	1.28	1.28
JO TOBACCO/CIGARET	13.50	13.55
JOR CEMENT FACT.	1.05	1.05
JOR CERAMIC FACT.	1.06	1.06
JOR ELEC INC.	25.01	25.05
JOR FINANCE POWER	1.47	1.47
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.20	1.20
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY	1.03	1.05
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.50	2.50
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.	1.67	1.66
JOR IHS AND FIN.	1.20	1.20
JOR LIME AND BRICK	---	---
JOR MANAG/CONSULT	---	---
JOR NATIONAL BANK	2.43	2.43
JOR PAPER CARD/BRDG	3.06	3.00
JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	2.39	2.40
JOR PIPES MANUFACT.	1.17	1.17
JOR PRESS/PUBLISH.	2.15	2.05
JOR PRINTING/PACK.	3.00	3.65
JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	0.68	0.68
JOR SECURIT. CORP	0.91	0.91
JOR TIMBER PROCES.	0.17	0.17
JOR WOOD INDUSTRY	1.31	1.33
JOR WORSTED MILL	4.50	4.50
JOR. PETROLIUM REF	7.12	7.12
JOR. FRENCH INS.	5.60	6.00
JOR. INV. FIN. CORP.	1.86	1.86
JOR. KAW. CO. AGRE.	1.00	1.00
JORDAN BREWERY	3.65	3.65
JORDAN DAIRY	1.03	1.03
JORDAN GULF BANK	1.20	1.20
JORDAN GULF INS.	0.93	0.95
JORDAN GULF REAL	0.33	0.33
JORDAN INSURANCE	13.85	13.90
JORDAN ISLAMIC BHK	1.80	1.80
JORDAN KAMAT BANK	1.60	1.60
JORDAN TANNING	1.95	1.95
LIVESTOCK/POULTRY	0.72	0.72
NAS INDUSTRIES	0.69	0.73
MIDDLE EAST HOTEL	0.60	0.60
MIDDLE EAST INS.	60.00	60.00
MINERALS RESEARCH	0.60	0.60
HAT. FIN. INVEST CO	1.50	1.55
HAT/CABLE/WIRE/INF	1.01	1.02
NATIONAL AHLIA INS	1.30	1.28
NATIONAL INDUSTRY	0.51	0.51
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO	0.81	0.81
NATIONAL STEEL	2.80	2.80
NTW. SHIPPING LINE	0.85	0.87
ORIENT DRY BATTERY	0.25	0.28
PETRA BANK	2.05	2.05
PETRA JOR. INS.	0.50	0.50
PHILADELPHIA INS.	0.72	0.69
RAFA INDUSTRIAL	0.80	0.80
REAL ESTATE INV.	0.44	0.43
SPINNING MEVING	0.93	0.93
THE HOUSING BANK	1.59	1.61
UNITED INSURANCE	2.50	2.50
UNIVERSAL CHEM. IND	1.93	1.96
UNIVERSAL INS.	0.75	0.74
WOOLEN INDUSTRIES	0.87	0.85
YARMOUK INSURANCE	1.10	1.10

PHILIPPINES MAKATI

Al Saquer tells Cairo to boost exports to Gulf

THE chairman of the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry Abdul Aziz Al Saquer yesterday said that the Egyptian government would solve old problems of Kuwait real estate owners in Egypt.

He affirmed that the Kuwaiti market is open for Egyptian commodities and urged Cairo to increase its exports to the Arab Gulf markets.

Al Saquer told Kuna after meeting the deputy chairman of the Egyptian General Investment Authority and free zones Dr. Mohamed Algharib at the chamber's headquarters, that routine works had delayed registering real estate in Egypt in the name of its Kuwaiti owners and called on Cairo to settle the problem

once and for all, noting that some are still pending in courts.

"We would wish the problems be solved in any way whether by issuing a special law or upon orders of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak," the chairman said.

He explained that "we do not want to overrule the Egyptian laws but need an end to the problem" and noted that a draft law now is tabled in the Egyptian parliament which allowed the concerned ministers to settle such issues.

Al Saquer had visited Egypt last January at the head of a high level chamber delegation, during which he conferred with several Egyptian officials for talks on ways of settling obstacles facing

Kuwaiti investments in Egypt including the real estate problems.

Asked about what Egypt achieved in developing investment works there particularly in facilitating Arab and Kuwaiti investments, Al Saquer said that most of the chamber's requests such as unifying the dollar's exchange rate against the Egyptian pound and allowing free pricing of goods and services of investment projects have been met by Cairo.

Exports

He added that Egyptian investment officials are seriously endeavouring to promote that sector in the country.

He advocated expanding the volume of Egyptian industrial and agricultural

exports to the Arab Gulf markets.

Asked about his meeting with Algharib, he said the Egyptian official invited him to attend the Arab investment symposium in Egypt scheduled to open there on March 13 to discuss a number of investment projects.

Algharib arrived here yesterday at the end of a Gulf tour during which he visited the UAE and Qatar. Al Saquer noted that the symposium, to be opened by President Mubarak, will allow opportunity to explore investment atmosphere and opportunities in Egypt.

Cairo, is scheduled to table 80 investment ventures before the Arab investors in the gathering that will be attended by chairman of all Arab chambers.

Bahrain stock exchange expected to open within six months

BAHRAIN, Feb 24, (Reuters): Bahrain is pressing ahead with plans to set up its first stock exchange and hopes to open a trading floor within about six months, the project's adviser said today.

Fawzi Behad said conversion of an office block in central Manama should be completed within a month and the exchange would be opened between June and September.

"Our plan is to open in summer, but no date has been decided on yet," he told Reuters. The exchange, replacing a telephone and telex market, was first proposed in August 1986 as part of a package of government measures to stimulate Bahrain's economy.

Initially 21 Bahraini-owned companies will be listed plus nine joint ventures between Bahrainis and nationals of other Gulf, Cooperation Council countries — Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

Markets Gulf states have been trying to expand their financial markets, placing particular emphasis in recent months on issuing government bonds or treasury bills to bridge budget deficits.

Stock exchanges have developed more slowly. In Saudi Arabia, a trading floor was opened for just three weeks last year and then closed because, bankers said, of objections from the kingdom's conservative religious community.

Oman plans to open an exchange later this year. The only trading floor now operating in the Gulf is in Kuwait where bankers say weak earnings, competition from government debt offerings and October's worldwide slide in stocks have depressed prices.

Some Gulf-based bankers had hoped the "Black Monday" crash would boost Gulf stock markets by encouraging local investors to repatriate funds from major Western exchanges. But share indices have painted a different picture. The index for Kuwaiti companies has slipped 9.2 per cent since early October. The index for the Saudi market, now back on a telephone and telex basis with no sign of an early revival of the trading floor, is virtually unchanged from pre-crash levels, while Bahrain's share index has retreated by 6.6 per cent.

Opec reiterates commitment to stable oil market

VIENNA, Feb 24, (Opecna): Opec today re-emphasised its commitment to a stable international market, pledging strenuous and continuing efforts to this end, "regardless of the negative activities of detractors."

In an official press release here, the organisation described those negative activities as a "dis-service" not only to Opec, but also to all other oil producers and consumers "who believe that stability is in the best interests of all."

The organisation strongly denied media reports suggesting that Opec had been exceeding its agreed production ceiling of 15.06 million bpd (excluding Iraq).

Commitment "We should like to reaffirm the commitment of the 12 signatories to the agreement reached at the Opec conference last December," the organisation said.

It pointed out that "no reliable production figures in respect of our member countries even for January, not to mention February, are available yet."

It added that Klynveld Kraayenhof, the independent Dutch firm of auditors engaged to monitor Opec production and supply levels, began work simultaneously in the 12 signatory countries on Monday, to audit the January figures.

"All member countries (who are) signatories to the December agreement have assured KKC officials of their full cooperation and access to facilities."

Caution slows worldwide rebound in share prices

LONDON, Feb 24, (Reuters): Tokyo's stock market edged up today for the 10th straight session but a worldwide advance in share prices showed signs of faltering.

The dollar was steady at lower values to which it has slipped in recent days.

Dealers said that factors which were making for caution in many stock markets included a lower Tuesday close on the New York Stock Exchange, where a two-day rally was arrested, and the weaker dollar.

Eased

The dollar has eased in recent days after Swiss and Japanese central bankers said last week it would have to fall further to correct global trade imbalances. "It might shade up a bit this morning but sentiment is still bearish on the whole," said a London-based currency dealer with a US bank.

It traded in Europe just above 1.69 West German marks and just under 129 yen, after holding above 1.70 and 129 through last week.

Wall Street on Tuesday snap-

ped a two-session, 54-point rally to close with the most-watched barometer of blue chip stocks, the Dow Jones industrial average, down 1.17 points at 2,039.12.

Rally

New York dealers said the rally had been checked by a round of profit-taking. That did not stop Tokyo edging higher for the 10th straight session with the Nikkei index at one point rising above 25,000 for the first time since the October market crash.

The gain was pared later and the Nikkei ended up just 0.08 per cent or 19.20 points at 24,968.65. But the turnover of 1.1 billion shares was the highest volume traded in Tokyo since last October 22.

"Things look good in the near term," said broker Yozo Asai of Yamaichi Securities. But he said that bouts of selling yesterday and today suggested the market may be due for a correction.

"The market hasn't gained for 10 straight sessions in two years," said a fund manager from the Bank of Tokyo.

In other Asian markets, Sydney's main share index fell 5.3 points to 1,257.9 while Hong Kong's Hang Seng index dropped just two points to 2,327, according to preliminary figures.

The mood in London was cautious. London's blue-chip gauge, the FTSE 100-share index, after two hours had put on just 1.6 points to 1,759.5.

Dealers

London dealers spoke of a lack of direction and disappointment that the recent rally on Wall Street had failed to carry the Dow above its post-crash high around 2,052.

French shares were little changed ahead of the main session. Paris dealers were unsure whether profit-taking would carry the bourse there lower later on, or whether bargain hunters might move in and help prices up.

West German stocks opened mixed. Some Frankfurt dealers said the dollar's softer undertone was making operators cautious.

A declining dollar crimps the profits of firms around the world which export to the United States.

Gold price at lowest level since April '87

LONDON, Feb 24, (Reuters): The gold price fell to its lowest since April '87 in London today, dealers said.

It touched a low around \$431.75, down \$10 on Tuesday's London closing price.

It recovered to around \$435.00 in later trading but dealers said it may remain under pressure.

They said producer selling, possibly from the Soviet Union, may have contributed to the decline. Analyst Robert O'Connell, of Shearson Lehman Bros, said high production had discouraged gold buyers and the market had not yet felt the effect of good demand from Asia.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, Feb 24, (Reuters): Share prices closed slightly weaker across the board, ending a nine-day rally, but leaving brokers unperturbed after what was termed a "featureless" day. The All Ordinaries index closed 5.3 points down at 1,257.9.

TOKYO — Prices closed firm in heavy trading boosted by buying of large capitalisation shares. The Nikkei index rose 19.20 points or 0.08 per cent to 24,968.65.

HONG KONG — Prices were slightly higher but trading was sluggish in the absence of fresh incentives. The Hang Seng index gained five to 1,259.30.

SINGAPORE — Prices were marginally lower on some profit-taking in lacklustre trading. The Straits Times industrial index lost 1.80 to 894.16.

BOMBAY — Prices fell under selling pressure caused by proposal increases in railway freight rates.

FRANKFURT — Domestic demand boosted the market and prices closed firmer after a hectic session. The Commerzbank index, calculated at mid-session, was up 3.1 to 1,379.2.

ZURICH — Prices were firmer in a lively session as a strong Tokyo stock market boosted investor confidence. The All-Share Swiss index rose 4.4 to 827.9.

PARIS — Prices were slightly firmer after strong demand for financial stocks and potential takeover targets. The 50-share bourse indicator rose by 0.85 pct.

NEW YORK — Stocks drifted lower in dull trading, with investors cautious ahead of US economic data due later in the week. The Dow fell three to 2,036.

Optimism returns to Wall Street

NEW YORK, Feb 24, (Reuters): The worst is over, Shearson Lehman Hutton says in a splashy new advertising campaign, joining a chorus of other brokerage houses and analysts advising investors that the stock market is now sound.

Shearson, the nation's second biggest broker, is spending millions of dollars on television and print advertising to proclaim: "We have seen the lows of this year bear market."

"We believe stock prices will rise to higher levels during the year. We believe the time to make long-term commitments to the stock market is now," say the advertisements.

Caution

But caution is still the strongest sentiment in the unsettled aftermath of the unprecedented 508-point fall in share prices that occurred four months ago.

"The future still depends on how much the economy is hurt by the knee-jerk reaction from the bomb that exploded on Wall Street," said Gary Cimmino of Fleet/Norstar financial group. "There is still some confusion about whether we are going to stumble into a recession because of the stock market crash."

Shearson bases its optimistic

forecast on the prospects for a steady-but-slow economy and an easy monetary policy that should keep interest rates moderate.

Bullish

"I'm bullish for the long-term," Elaine Garzarelli, Shearson's best-known stock watcher, told Reuters. "For the short-term, I'm looking for a pullback, which should come soon. When it does, it's time to buy."

"Why buy now if stocks can get cheaper?" she said.

"She said a sluggish economy, stronger earnings and modest interest rates should propel the Dow Jones industrials to 2,400 to 2,600 this year. But first, it could fall to 1,800."

Similar upbeat long-term forecasts are coming from other Wall Street houses following a good mid-February spell during which the market put together its first back-to-back weekly gains since October.

Growing

"We've been bullish since the crash," said Prudential-Bache's Larry Wachtel. "What the Street is doing is gravitating away from the view that the crash is bringing on a recession."

Now the view is taking hold that many economists overreac-

ted to the crash. Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan says the US Central Bank sees the economy growing by 2 to 2.5 per cent this year, a view that concurs with many Wall Street forecasts.

While individual investors and big institutions are demonstrating caution in the market, foreigners have become more aggressive, traders said. And Wall Street has been buoyed by a major upturn in the mergers and acquisitions, with a massive \$35 billion outpouring of deals estimated to have been proposed in January alone.

Deals

Cimmino said the deals were prompted after stock prices were driven down to a more reasonable level that match their earnings. With stocks prices on balance with earnings, any profit gains will boost the equity market, Cimmino said.

But the stock market's recent upswing of some 140 points from this month's low of 1,895.72 on February 8 also invites scepticism over the short term, analysts said.

"The market is a little overextended right now," said Wachtel. "It's looking a little tired. We need some time to rest before we keep going higher."

UK clears BP's offer for Britoil

LONDON, Feb 24, (AP): The British government said today it has agreed to relinquish its "golden share" in Britoil Plc, clearing the way for British Petroleum Co. Plc's full £2.5-billion takeover offer for the North Sea oil company.

The government doesn't intend to exercise the share as long as BP upholds promise to maintain headquarters for some of Britoil's operations in Glasgow, Scotland, Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson said in answer to questions in the House of Commons.

The government retained the special share — which gives it a controlling vote over the company's affairs — when it privatised Britoil in two stages in 1985 and 1982.

Control of the golden share eventually will be transferred from the treasury to Britain's Energy Department and its final

disposition will be determined at a later date, Lawson said. BP has acquired 79.8 per cent of Britoil's 504 million shares outstanding through a 500 pence (\$8.85) a share takeover bid begun in December.

Lawson said discussions on the terms of takeover had finished. BP agreed to locate both Britoil's and BP's North Sea exploration and production offices in Glasgow, where Britoil has its headquarters.

The office would control BP's exploration and production operations in Norway and the Republic of Ireland, as well as in Britain, Lawson said.

"An acceptable arrangement has been reached with BP" that won't jeopardise Glasgow's economy, the Chancellor said. "I am quite sure there will be no backsliding by BP."

Lawson also said BP agreed to

try to achieve an increase of at least 5 per cent in recoverable reserves from Britoil's North Sea oil fields.

He said BP will spend between £300 million and £325 million a year on exploration and development in areas controlled by BP and Britoil, which Lawson described as a large increase over previous expenditures in the area.

Britoil will be managed and operated as a separate independent subsidiary and will have its own chief executive, Lawson said.

The Britoil board is to be headed by a non-executive chairman with no previous BP connections, he said. The appointment will be a joint agreement between BP and the government, he said.

The government, BP and Britoil have held talks over BP's intended takeover for several weeks.

US trade deficit \$40.17b in quarter

WASHINGTON, Feb 24, (Reuters): The US foreign trade deficit was a seasonally adjusted \$40.17 billion between October and December, bringing the total 1987 deficit to \$159.2 billion, the government said today.

The deficit was smaller than the record \$40.37 billion deficit in the July-September period. It was the first narrowing of a quarterly deficit since the second quarter of 1986.

The report covered monthly figures on merchandise trade already released, but it presented them on a seasonally adjusted basis which excludes military sales and costs of insurance and shipping.

The Commerce Department said the third quarter deficit was previously estimated at \$39.83 billion.

Imports

The trade deficit on a balance-of-payments basis for 1986 was \$144.34 billion.

US officials are looking for an improvement in the US trade

balance this year to help sustain the current economic expansion, now in its 63rd month.

Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan told Congress in testimony this week the United States had reached a turning point on the trade deficit. US exports have become more competitive because of the lower dollar and imports are becoming more expensive and therefore less attractive to American buyers, he said.

The figures were viewed neutral to slightly favourable for prices.

Signs refiners in northwest Europe and in the Mediterranean were now more interested in buying because of improving refinery profit margins also contributed to the early strength.

However, physical supplies of crude remain especially high in the North Sea and this continues to weigh on sentiment, and helped to take prices back down.

Oil prices ease, trading still thin

LONDON, Feb 24, (Reuters): Crude oil prices eased five to 20 cents on international spot markets today, but activity remained at a low ebb in the absence of any significant fresh news, traders said.

Prices had started firmer in the Far East and Europe after American Petroleum Institute statistics, released late Tuesday, showed a 1.9 million barrel fall in US crude stocks over the week.

The figures were viewed neutral to slightly favourable for prices.

Signs refiners in northwest Europe and in the Mediterranean were now more interested in buying because of improving refinery profit margins also contributed to the early strength.

However, physical supplies of crude remain especially high in the North Sea and this continues to weigh on sentiment, and helped to take prices back down.

GOVERNMENT TENDERS

discuss the tender's conditions.

Note: The company representative shall not be allowed to attend the preliminary obligatory meeting if the bidder fails to notify Kuwait National Petroleum Co. with the names and designations of his nominees according to the safety and security conditions applied in refineries at least two days before the date of the said meeting.

Tender No. LP/87/10-87/88

Tender's Internal No. 67/88

Concerned party: Ministry of Public Works

Requirements: Supply and installation of computer and package programmes

Relevant fee: KD/20/-

Initial guarantee: 5% of offer's value

Closing date: 12:00 noon, Sunday, 27.3.88

N.B.: This tender is open for contractors classified in 4th category of construction works.

Tender No. 10/87/1988M

Tender's Internal No. 67/88

Concerned party: Ministry of Public Works

Requirements: Supply of frozen vegetables

Relevant fee: KD/20/-

Initial guarantee: 5% of offer's value

Closing date: 12:00 noon, Tuesday, 29.3.88

N.B.: This tender is open for contractors classified in 2nd, 3rd and 4th categories of construction works.

27. Abdul Ghanim Al Mutawa Sons Co.

28. Mobd Abdul Rahman Al Baber & Partners Co.

29. Business Machines Co.

30. United Computer Systems Group

31. Al Aqsa Computers Co.

32. Zaid Al Kazmi Sons Trdg. Co.

33. Technical Consultant & Computer Services Centre

34. Hamad Abdullah Al Essa & Sons Co.

35. Al Sani Gen. Trdg. & Contg. Co.

36. Mobd Saleh Marafie Trdg. & Contg. Co.

37. Mobd Saleh Marafie Trdg. & Contg. Co.

38. Mobd Saleh Marafie Trdg. & Contg. Co.

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56. Mobd Saleh Marafie Trdg. & Contg. Co.

Water

Requirements: Construction, completion & maintenance of 80 substations in different locations

Relevant Fee: KD 50/-

Initial Guarantee: 2-1/2% of offer's value

Closing Date: 12:00 noon, Sunday, 27.3.88

Qualified Tenderers:

1. Kuwait Prefabricated Buildings Co.

2. Kuwait Precast Systems Co.

3. United Buildings Co.

4. Al Rabiah Int. Contg. Co.

5. Building & Construction Industry Co.

6. Real Estate Manufacturing & Construction Co.

Tender No. C/73750

Tender's Internal No. 667/88

Concerned Party: Kuwait National Petroleum Co.

Requirements: Cleaning services in streets & yards, collection of refuse, removal of sewers from tanks and other services at company's refineries.

Relevant Fee: KD 50/-

Initial Guarantee: 2-1/2% of offer's value

Closing Date: 12:00 noon, Tuesday, 19.4.88

Qualified Tenderers:

1. National Cleaning Co.

2. Tazifco Est.

3. Abdul Hameed Salem Trdg. Est.

4. Abdul Rashid Dawood Al Qimas Est.

5. Al Abileh Cleaning Circle

6. Dana & Berkeley Cleaning Services Co.

7. Wael Al Nusli & Partners Trdg. Co.

8. Fahed Al Kulaib Trdg. & Contg. Est.

9. Abdi Trdg. & Contg. Est.

10. Al Soula Trdg. & Contg. Co.

11. Pritchard Cleaning Co.

12. Al Soor Co.

13. Al Abraq Trading Co.

14. Al Al Sayegh Contg. Co.

15. Baddab & Messeri Trdg. & Contg. Co.

16. Gulfis Al Hajri Co.

N.B.: A pre-tender meeting shall be held at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, 19.3.88 in Shuaiba Refinery to visit the site and discuss the tender's conditions.

Dear Junior Readers,

Kuwait's National Day is a special time for both Kuwaitis and those of us who call Kuwait our home. It is fun to see the country celebrate its 27th anniversary and to participate in this festive occasion.

There are many events planned in Kuwait for today and the coming week in honour of National Day. Try to attend some of these festivities and learn more about your host country. It would also be worthwhile to take a drive through the city in the evening and enjoy the colourful lights, which adorn many buildings and homes.

Although most of us are not citizens of Kuwait, we can, nonetheless, enjoy celebrating with our Kuwaiti friends the 27th National Day of their country.

Aunt Barbara

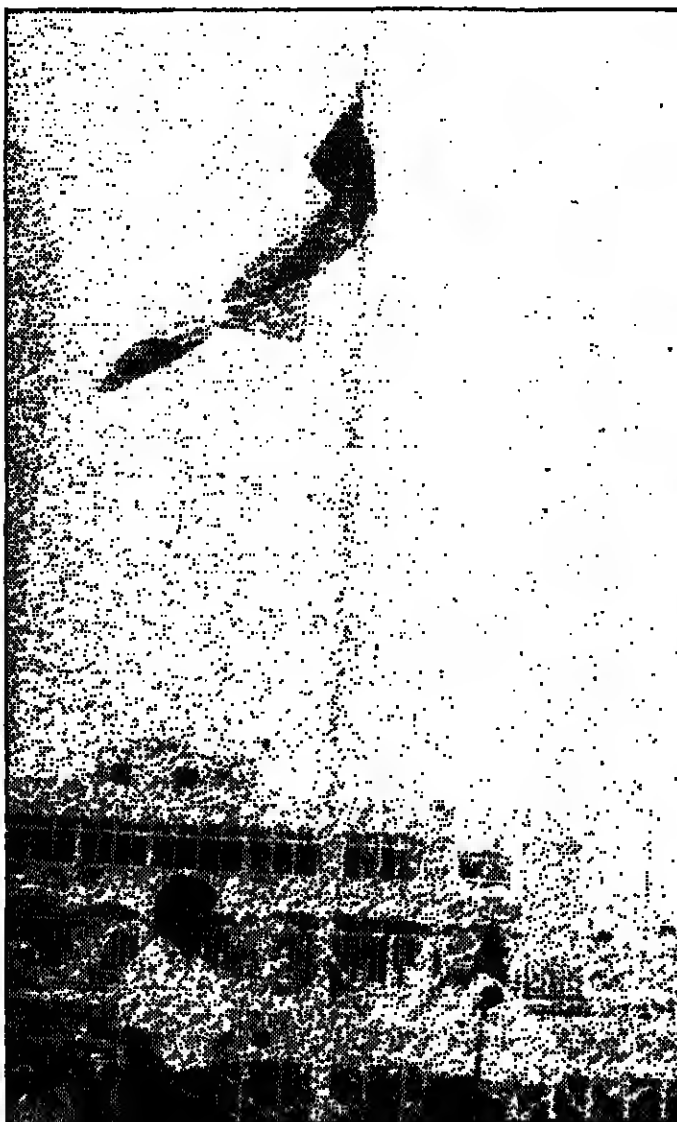
KES celebrates Kuwait's 27th National Day

KUWAIT English School students from Kindergarten to High School all joined in to celebrate Kuwait's National Day with a number of activities, culminating in a flag-raising ceremony yesterday, followed by a brief talk by the school chairman Mr. Mohamud Jassim Al Saddah.

Kindergarten children made displays and Kuwaiti flags, the Infant Department had a special assembly followed by a party with traditional Kuwaiti dances, songs and Arabic food and the Juniors depicted various aspects of life in Kuwait with displays lining the school's corridors.

The Social Studies classes focussed on Kuwait's impressive growth and modernisation from 1961 to the present and joined the Arabic Department in developing a three-dimensional display showing various facets of Kuwaiti life: homes, dress, customs and industry.

A special National Day concert was presented with Arab and non-Arab students participating in paying their respects to Kuwait and its rulers.



Kuwait knowledge

1. Why was the Jahra Red Fort originally built?
2. When was Entertainment City officially opened?
3. The original design of the National Assembly Building was executed by Jørn Utzon. What internationally known landmark is this Danish architect famous for?
4. How long does it take the Kuwait Towers revolving restaurant to complete one revolution?
5. In what year did HH the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed begin his rule?
6. About how long is the coastline of Kuwait?
7. In what country is the largest water distillation

8. What is the special ingredient in chai zaftoun which gives it its unique taste?
9. The Museum of Islamic Art houses the private collection of what Kuwaiti couple?
10. What island did Alexander the Great name "Ikaraes"?
11. What is the national tree of Kuwait?
12. What is the complete name of the zoo in Kuwait?
13. Al Sadu is the term used to describe what craft?
14. Doha Village was the centre of what flourishing trade?

Answers on Tuesday

If you and your mother or father would like to try your hand at Kuwaiti cooking, follow these three typical Kuwaiti recipes.

Machbous Labem — Lamb 'machbous' with rice

Ingredients
Leg or shoulder of lamb or lamb pieces
Whole and ground cardamom
1 onion
whole and ground cinnamon salt
whole cloves
oil (optional)
Basmati rice

Wash the meat thoroughly and put in a large pot. Fill the pot with water until the meat is well covered. Add three to four cardamom pods, four sticks of cinnamon, four whole cloves and peeled onion cut in half. The spices and onion give a nice flavour to the meat.

Heat the water until it boils, then let it continue to boil on medium heat until the meat is tender, about 40 minutes to an hour depending on how large your piece of meat is. Add salt, according to taste, when the meat is about half done.

When the meat is cooked take it out of the water, but do not throw out the water as you will be using it to cook the rice. Strain the water into another container, discard the onion and spices, and set it aside. Sprinkle the cooked meat with a teaspoon of ground cardamom and a teaspoon of ground cinnamon and brown it in the pot in a little oil. If you like your food less oily you can brown it under the grill in your oven. If you've browned it in the pot, leave the oil in the pot and add the washed Basmati rice and the

strained water. This will give the rice more flavour. I usually measure three coffee mugs full of rice for four people. (You can warm up leftover rice the next day in a baking pan in the oven). Add just enough of the strained water to cover the rice one centimetre. If the water you were left with is not enough you can add some water to make up the measure. The Basmati rice cooks quickly and the grains of rice swell till they are light and fluffy. Bring the water to boiling, then let it boil on medium heat.

While the rice is cooking there are two things you should do. First, take a Kuwaiti teacup or any very small glass and fill it with hot water, a generous pinch of saffron and half a teaspoon of ground cardamom and leave it for later. Second, make the heshew, a mixture of onion, pine nuts and sultanas which you sprinkle on top of the cooked rice. (see recipe below)

When your rice has expanded, is fluffy, and no longer hard, turn the heat on low and let it simmer for five or ten minutes, until the excess moisture has steamed away. At this time you should pour the saffron mixture on top of the rice in a circular pattern so that you will end up with nice streaks of yellow mixed with the white rice.

Heshew
Ingredients
3 medium onions
Ground dried black limes
Pine nuts
Ground cardamom
Sultanas

Ground cumin
Black pepper

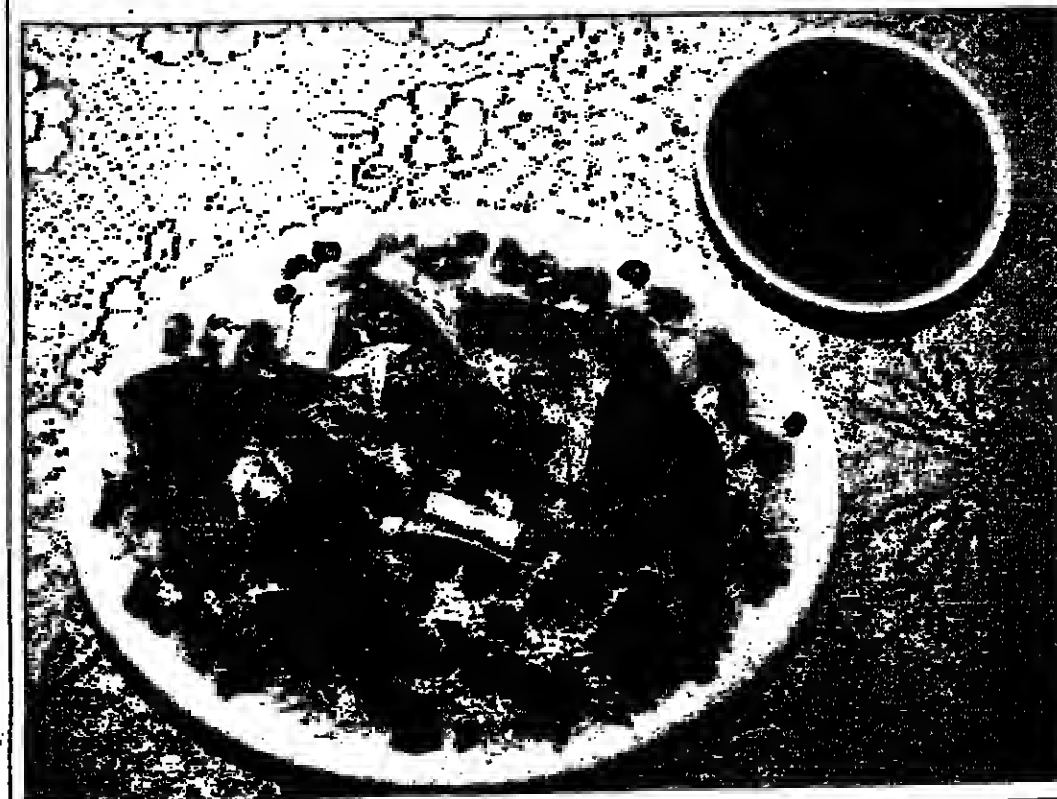
First, wash a handful of sultanas and leave them to soak in warm water for ten to fifteen minutes, until they are soft. Chop the onions in a frying pan (a Teflon one is best) and fry them over medium heat without any oil, stirring them continuously as they brown adding spoonfuls of water now and then when they begin to stick to the pan.

Stir in a handful of pine nuts, letting them brown as the onions continue to get darker. Add a teaspoon each of black lime powder, ground cardamom and ground cumin and do not stop stirring. Now drain and add the sultanas and continue stirring until the onion has turned dark brown. Set aside.

When everything is ready, dish the rice out onto a large platter, sprinkle the heshew on top and put the meat on top of the rice. Serve with a tomato sauce called dakkous (see recipe below).

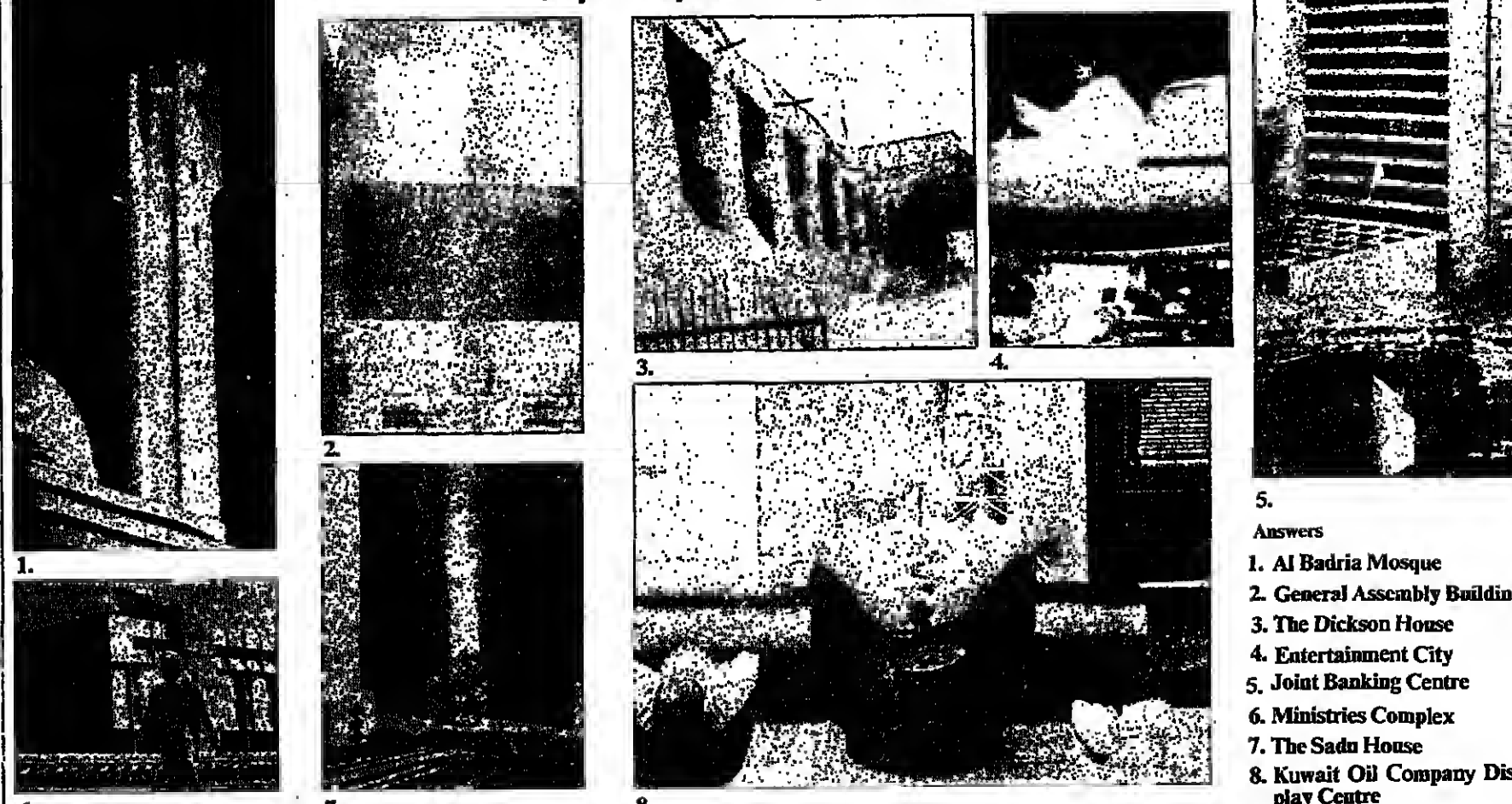
Dakkous — Tomato Sauce

Dakkous is quick and simple to make. Use four medium fresh chopped tomatoes or peeled tinned tomatoes which you have mashed with a fork. Chop up parsley, celery leaves, or any greens you have available. Add to the tomatoes and heat in a saucepan along with a clove of finely chopped garlic, a few spoons of tomato paste, add salt and black pepper to taste. Let it simmer at least 15 minutes.



A look at Kuwait

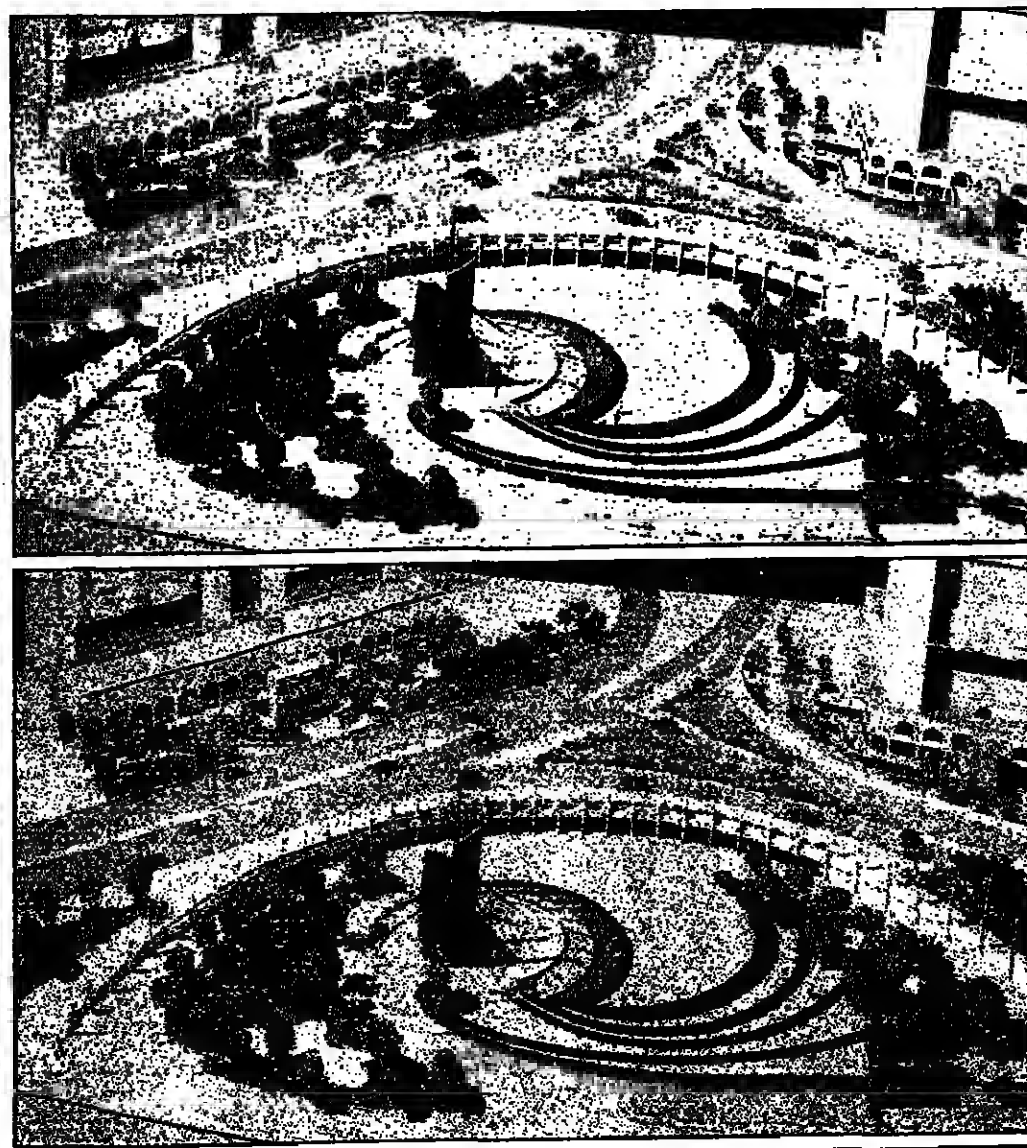
Can you identify these famous places in Kuwait?



- Answers**
1. Al Badria Mosque
2. General Assembly Building
3. The Dickson House
4. Entertainment City
5. Joint Banking Centre
6. Ministries Complex
7. The Sadu House
8. Kuwait Oil Company Display Centre

Spot the differences

The Waterfront Project is Kuwait's newest entertainment area. Below is a picture of the designer's model of the project. Can you find eight differences between the two pictures?



Searching in Kuwait

Kuwait	Oil	Mosque	Flag
Doha	Sea	Cooperatives	National Day
Red Fort	Fishing	Souks	Sahab
Towers	Pearls	Traffic	Gulf Road
Entertainment	Dhows	Pigeons	GCC
Expat	Jahra	Arabic	Swimming
Sief Palace	Greenbelt	Dishdasha	Amir
Arabian Gulf	Museum	Clubs	Flag
Highways	Planetarium	Hotel	Camp
Schools	Islamic	Arab Times	
Asafar Motorway		Waterfront Project	

H K A S S A F A R M O T O R W A Y A
S O U K S A B S E A C I D A E F M M
N T W K R B J C L M C L J R M P I U
A E A C E A P H H D O H A H U M R I
B L I D A H G O I J O K L A S N O R
W A T E R F R O N T P R O J E C T A
G R R J A I S L G R E E N B U T R T
R A M S B S W S E P R L R S M U A E
E B K E T H I E X B A T R T A B F N
E I C I I I M C P C T O W E R S F A
N C I F M N M A A H I G H W A Y I L
B D M P E G I M T N V C F L A G C P
E E A A S K N P L M E C O P Q R L W
L F L L P I G E O N S T U V R R W O
T G S A K N A T I O N A L D A Y X H
Y T I C T N E M N I A T R E T N E D
H I J E D I S H D A S H A Y Z A K R
C L U B S X A R A B I A N G U L F B

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

MARKET PLACE

ACCOMMODATION

Available

SALMIYA, furnished room for a single working girl, Indian or Pakistani. Tel. 5634802. (AT5-41148-3)

DASMA, two rooms for small families. Tel. Bilal, 2532730. (AT5-41145-3)

SALMIYA, behind Mercedes Showroom, for Indian bachelors, families or working girls to share with bachelors. Bus 15, 19, 24, 519, 30. Tel. Angelo or Dayanand, 5749750 10 am - 9 pm. (AT4-41121-3)

KUWAIT City, Amman Street. One room with kitchen and tele. facilities for a small Indian family, working girls or bachelors. Rent KD65. Tel. 5621725. (AT5-41110-3)

KEIFAN, Area 7, House 23, Kaifan Street. Accommodation with tele facilities for an Indian family or bachelors. Bus route 31. Rent KD 55. Tel. Shabbir, 4841885. (AT5-41144-2)

KEIFAN, opp. Jamaiya No. 1, Area 3, Street 31, House No 6. Rooms available for Indian couples or family. Contact Sultan Mohammed in person between 5-9 pm. (AT5-41140-3)

NUGRA near Hawalli Clinic. Furnished one bedroom in a two-bed room flat with tele facilities from 1st March for a family or bachelors. Rent negotiable. Tel. 2613547 after 5pm. (AT5-41135-2)

BENEDE AL QAR, near the Hilton Hotel. One furnished room, for bachelors. Tel. Mr. Nabil, 2403097. (AT5-41145-3)

AL ASMAR

Suits (3 pieces) KD 15,000
Suits KD 5,000
Shirts, Super Line KD 2,500
Ladies and Gents' woolen pullovers KD 2,000
Ties KD 1,000

Fahd Al Salem St. — Al Awwal Bldg. — beside Mulla Saleh Mosque. Tel: 2422803

Philippines
Door to Door
Service

Abughosh Int'l.
Tel. 4843447
SARAH

Form Arabia Furnishing Co. WLL

Villa — 3 bedrooms + maid's room, part of small complex, pool and gardens.
Tel: 4878009/010 between 8 am and 12 noon

EXQUISITE ITALIAN DESIGNS at affordable prices



Come in and see our new line of gold and precious jewellery

Boutique
Al Nerah

Souk Al Watya Kuwait Telephone 2448562.

PETS

CAT, white, playful and behaved. Male. Persian, needs love of an American/European home. Two years old. Price negotiable. Tel. Mr or Mrs Al Jundi 5335254 after 7.30 pm. (AT4-41129-3)

FOR SALE

Furniture

USED furniture, bedroom, living room, dining room, master bed, single bed and plants and other items in excellent condition. Tel. Dr Manaf, 2637733, 4.30-8.30 pm. (AT6-41152-3)

Cars

MITSUBISHI Galant GLS, bought Dec. 87, automatic, 5500 kms, registered up to Dec. 1990, in excellent condition. Paid KD 3000, asking KD 2500 (fixed). Tel. 2403600, 8.30 am - 1 pm, 4.30 - 7.30 pm. (AT4-41122-3)

VACANCY PURCHASER

1. Good command of English
2. More than 5 years experience with local market in selling/buying by retail/wholesale of building/const. materials & heavy equipment parts.
3. Valid Kuwaiti driving license
4. Transferable Residence.
Please call 4837271 or 4837281 to submit bio data.

FERRARI 400 I, 82 model, fully automatic, white interior, 20,000 kms, sunroof. KD10,500 (ten thousand five hundred). Tel. 2610505. (AT4-41127-3)

MERCEDES 250, 1979, automatic, power windows, new tyres etc. Tested upto Aug '86, good runner, needs respray for next test. Re-advertised due to time waster. KD1,150, ono, cash. Tel. Mike, 5339308; anytime. (AT6-41155-3)

Miscellaneous

3-BEDROOM flat with a very large living/dining room behind U.T.C., Salmiya. Rent KD 250. Also furniture for sale. Tel. 5727865. (AT4-41126-3)

Golden Express

Int'l Cargo
Door-to-door
cargo service to the
Philippines
(SEA & AIR)
Also more than 1000 kg of cargo
regardless of nature of cargo
sa mga mahal sa buhay ay
mopag-upon long sa
GOLDEN EXPRESS INT'L CARGO
Contact Mike
Tel. No. 2422332/2447529

FOR SALE

Lovely sea-front apartment for sale in Salmiya. Two bedrooms, huge lounge, beautifully fitted kitchen, nice compound.
Rent KD 310.
Please call 5714844

KUWAIT INDIAN SCHOOL

Farwania. Tel. 4737287

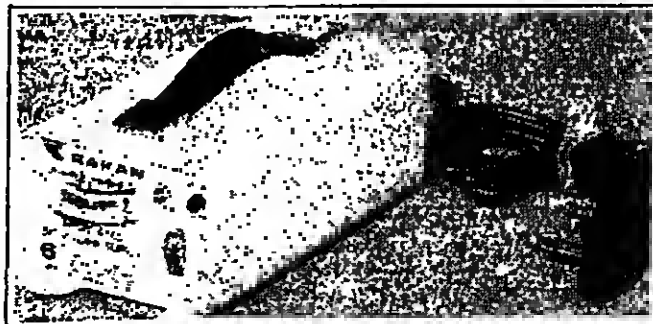
ADMISSION NOTICE

Registration started for L.K.G., U.K.G., 1st & 2nd standards for 1988-89 academic year starting from April. Application forms are available from School in Farwania, Block No. 86, Street No. 88 (behind Al-Tadamon sports club & Al-Basheer & Al-Manar School).
Transport by air-conditioned buses available.

MANAGEMENT

REGULATED D/C POWER SUPPLY

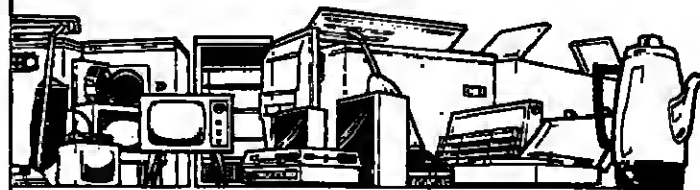
Recharges car telephone batteries, car batteries, all 12 v batteries, for use with all 12 v home appliances.
6 months warranty.



RAKAN Electronics Co.

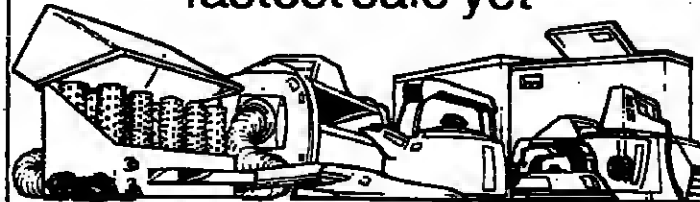
P.O. Box 24721, Safat 13108. Tel. 2408436

Leaving town for good?



Then advertise your odds and ends in the classified pages of the Arab Times

It could be your fastest sale yet



ARAB TIMES NEWS IS OUR BUSINESS

JVC video camera with appurtenances, price KD 250. No bargain. Tel. 3949843. (AT4-41134-3)

A FAMILY leaving Kuwait selling complete 2-bedroom apartment. Furniture used only for 3 months. KD2000, firm. Hawalli, central AC. Rent KD215. Tel. 2645326, 6-9 pm. (AT6-T/M-3)

HOUSEHOLD equipment: dishwasher, dryer, fridge and freezer comb, boards, tables, cupboards and other goods. Owner leaving Kuwait. Tel. Ralph Gerbert, 4895961, 10 am-8 pm. (AT5-41113-3)

A FLAT in Farwania behind Holiday Inn. Rent KD120 only. Tel. Salim or Mohammad, 2434633, 11 am-9 pm. (AT6-41154-3)

FOR RENT

Villos, 1/2 villas, flats, apartments, stores, etc., in all areas of Kuwait.

Messilah Beach
Real Estate
Tel. 2401858
2408510

CARPET CLEANING

Sofa, window, and all kinds of general cleaning

Contact
Gulf Down Cleaning Est.
Tel. 5624725

A FURNISHED apartment for sale with one bedroom, CAC, tele and TV, cable. Price negotiable. Rent KD 150. Tel. Mr or Mrs Al Jundi, 5335254, after 7.30 pm. (AT4-41129-3)

LOST

BLACK Samsonite briefcase, contains very important documents badly needed, lost at the airport, 5 am Sunday, Feb 21. Tel. Josefa Deguino, 4840300 ext. 2351, 2355. (AT6-41160-3)

New short courses available at The Steiner School of Al Ramal Est. from 28/2/88 includes:
● MAKE-UP
● SKIN CARE
● BODY MASSAGE
● ELECTROLYSIS
● MANICURE/PEDICURE
● G.S.
● SLENDERSTONE
Please Phone: 2429911/2429888 for more information.
All nationalities are welcome.
Beauty & Hair treatments currently being offered at very reasonable prices.
Office No. 1, 2nd Floor, Block 28, Amman Al Sabah Complex.

Video Film
International
40 films KD7
55 films KD10
80 films KD20
Prices include all movies except Arabic movies.
Tel. 4344290
Juleeb Al Shlyoukh

FOR RENT
Villas, half villas, buildings, and flats with or without swimming pool.
Al Azraq
Real Estate
Tel. 2452199, 2452198

252525252525

Look at what you get !!

Nice entrance/reception, dining room, large lounge, newly-fitted kitchen, large basement w/3 way access, 3/5 Brms + 4 bath rooms; laundry area + nanny's room, maid's qts x 2 rooms, kitchen + bath + carport.
Well kept, practical size/layout, carpets throughout.

Area: Mithrid - 6
Rent: KD. 900/- negotiable
Sub: Executive/diplomat
To view: 2438885 (Ruy)

WANTED

LABOURERS

for a cleaning company with transferable residence.
Tel. 2407838

ARAB TIMES CLASSIFIEDS COUPON

2 insertions KD 4. Three insertions KD5

Conditions:
1. Advertisements may be mailed in only on this coupon, or preferably, completed at the Arab Times office between 8.30 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 4.30 - 6 p.m.
2. To complete the coupon, follow the sequence of the information given in above printed advertisements, for desired section heading. All advertisements will be printed according to Arab Times format and are subject to editing.
3. Advertisements must not exceed 25 words including name and telephone number.
4. Text must be typed or clearly printed. No alterations or cancellations will be made after publication.
5. Advertisements of personal nature involving business transactions will not be accepted, nor any matrimonial advertisements.
6. The Arab Times is not responsible for postal delays.

Section heading

.....

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Sender's Name

Address

Telephone

.....

Coupons and payment must be mailed to:

ARAB TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

P.O. BOX: 2270

13023 SAFAT KUWAIT.

کیا امتیاز فلم اور ریاست کے درمیان نہیں کر دیا؟ عوام سے دُور ہو جئے گا

جس نے اس اور ایک شاعر اور دینی کا مضبوط ہمارے ہیں۔
 کچھ کچھ کہہ کر دلی سے اس نے جس طرح سے تھیں مانتی کہ اس
 شہر کے صفوں پر اس سے ایک خاص ہوئے کہ
 آئے اور اس کی اس طرف اس کی قبول ہے سے لالہ

سبح، کہیں ”مسٹر بیچ“ نہ پہنچائے
نصیر الدین شاہ کے ساتھ شوٹنگ کرنے
کوئی بڑا فکری ستارہ مہمان بن کر نہیں آیا

[illegible]

یہ سارا... دلیپس نہ جلدی

یہ ہے..... وہ نہیں نہ شادی

[illegible][illegible]

"چاندوگر" کے مصنف — سوہتا زوی گریبانسکی آرمینی کے

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

سے درود کے لئے اہل حق کے ساتھ ہی تھیں۔
 علی کا یہاں۔
 سے سب دیکھتے ہوئے تھیں آپ کے اچھے کیوں
 کہتے تھے چہرہ دیکھ کر لوگوں کے دل میں خشوع
 رہا پس اس سے اس کی تعلیم سے ہی خشک ہو آفت
 کی تھی نہ ہی قیوں اس کے کام کرنے کا
 جیوری میں تین دن لگا کر یہ تین ایک سو طرف ایک
 اور جیوری میں تین دن لگا کر یہ تین ایک سو طرف ایک
 سات کے تھے آپ نے اس کے لئے ایک سو تین
 آئے لکھتے تھے اس کے لئے ایک سو تین
 ہلے کے تھے اس کے لئے ایک سو تین
 قادیان کا ایک سو تین کے لئے ایک سو تین
 اچھے کا ایک سو تین کے لئے ایک سو تین
 کر ایک سو تین کے لئے ایک سو تین
 کی تھی نہ ہی قیوں اس کے کام کرنے کا
 جیوری میں تین دن لگا کر یہ تین ایک سو طرف ایک

[illegible]

جس میں ایک
بہت بڑا
سوسنٹ
پل ہے
ایک سا
چڑا غر ہے
جس پر آگے کل کر
خیزد دو سولہاں
چوٹی کے پہاڑ میں
تھکے تھکے

علاقہ کے سربراہ کے خاتم کر
سے۔ وہ خود ایک نیم انسان
روا الٹی کم کے سینٹ
رہے ہیں

قاف پھولوں اور سر
جسکوں میں بڑی خود کر

دکتر محمد علی احمد صاحب مدظلہ العالی
سورہ اہد مدظلہ العالی
کالی دکن میں چھپائی
پہلی جلد

BACHCHAN
HAND'S

[illegible]

مہم شہنشاہ کا اس پر کامیاب رہی ہے۔ انہوں نے اس سے پہلے بھی حکومت ہوا ہے کہ قزاقوں اور کاروں کو ان کی اوراکاری کی کاموں پر کامیاب رہنے کے لیے ان کے سیاسی کردار کی حیثیت سے پیچھے رہ گئی کہ اس مہم میں ان کی دلچسپی اوراکاری پر قزاقوں نے دل کھلی کر دلا دی ہے۔ ان یہ مہم ستانی مہم شہنشاہ کی دیکھنی کی جاتی ہے حالت کو سراہا دے سکتی ہے۔



AMITABH
IN
TINNU
A

INDER RA

AMITABH BACHCHAN
IN
TINNU ANAND'S
HATHAENS

INDER RAJ ARAND

کاپے کو نہیں لایا گیا ہوں

ایک نوجوان نے کہا کہ میں نے کاپے کو نہیں لایا گیا ہوں۔ یہ میری عمر 17 سال ہے۔ میں نے کاپے کو نہیں لایا گیا ہوں۔ یہ میری عمر 17 سال ہے۔

ایک نوجوان نے کہا کہ میں نے کاپے کو نہیں لایا گیا ہوں۔ یہ میری عمر 17 سال ہے۔ میں نے کاپے کو نہیں لایا گیا ہوں۔ یہ میری عمر 17 سال ہے۔



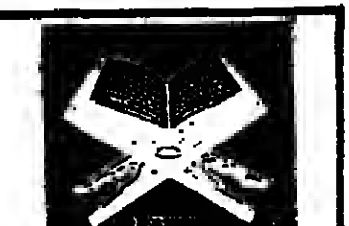
پہلے ہی کی سیاست میں پیر پگڑا پڑے کے ساتھ میں اس لیے بی تراض ہے

ایک نوجوان نے کہا کہ میں نے کاپے کو نہیں لایا گیا ہوں۔ یہ میری عمر 17 سال ہے۔ میں نے کاپے کو نہیں لایا گیا ہوں۔ یہ میری عمر 17 سال ہے۔

پاکستان میں قبل از وقت انتخابات کے امکان پیدا ہو رہے ہیں

پاکستان کی سیاست پر اس وقت ایک نیا جھڑپ پیدا ہو رہی ہے۔

ایک نوجوان نے کہا کہ میں نے کاپے کو نہیں لایا گیا ہوں۔ یہ میری عمر 17 سال ہے۔ میں نے کاپے کو نہیں لایا گیا ہوں۔ یہ میری عمر 17 سال ہے۔



اللہ کے نام سے ہے اس کی

ایک نوجوان نے کہا کہ میں نے کاپے کو نہیں لایا گیا ہوں۔ یہ میری عمر 17 سال ہے۔ میں نے کاپے کو نہیں لایا گیا ہوں۔ یہ میری عمر 17 سال ہے۔



پیش قدمی

ایک نوجوان نے کہا کہ میں نے کاپے کو نہیں لایا گیا ہوں۔ یہ میری عمر 17 سال ہے۔ میں نے کاپے کو نہیں لایا گیا ہوں۔ یہ میری عمر 17 سال ہے۔

Various small advertisements and notices, including one for 'Khan' and another for 'Khan'.

Advertisements for 'Khan' and other services, including a notice for 'Khan'.

Advertisements for 'Khan' and other services, including a notice for 'Khan'.

Advertisements for 'Khan' and other services, including a notice for 'Khan'.

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Advertisements for 'Khan' and other services, including a notice for 'Khan'.

Advertisements for 'Khan' and other services, including a notice for 'Khan'.

Advertisements for 'Khan' and other services, including a notice for 'Khan'.

وطن کے تحفظ کے لیے مزید اشتداد اور یگانگت سے کام لینا شروع

کویت کے قومی دن پر سربراہوں کے خیانات

کویت - ۲۴ فروری (رٹن) - کویت میں آج شام کو قومی دن کی مناسبت پر شہر میں شعلے کی آگ بجائی جائے گی۔ شہر کے مختلف حصوں میں شعلے کی آگ بجائی جائے گی۔ شہر کے مختلف حصوں میں شعلے کی آگ بجائی جائے گی۔ شہر کے مختلف حصوں میں شعلے کی آگ بجائی جائے گی۔



ایک شخص کو شعلے کی آگ بجانے کے لیے دیکھا گیا ہے۔

حکومت اپنے منصوبوں کو عملی جامہ پہنانے میں مصروف ہے

کویت کے قومی دن پر اعلیٰ حضرت علیٰ عہدہ دار اعظم کا ملی روزہ خطاب
کویت - ۲۴ فروری (رٹن) - اعلیٰ حضرت علیٰ عہدہ دار اعظم کا ملی روزہ خطاب میں کویت کے قومی دن پر خطاب کیا۔ انہوں نے کویت کے قومی دن پر خطاب کیا۔ انہوں نے کویت کے قومی دن پر خطاب کیا۔ انہوں نے کویت کے قومی دن پر خطاب کیا۔

عرب ٹائمز

تجمعرات ۲۵ فروری ۱۹۸۸ء - ۸ مارچ ۱۴۰۸ھ - چیف ایڈیٹر: احمد جبار اللہ

شہزادہ آج مشرق وسطیٰ پہنچیں گے دورے کی کامیابی کے امکانات کم ہیں

شہزادہ آج مشرق وسطیٰ پہنچیں گے دورے کی کامیابی کے امکانات کم ہیں۔ شہزادہ آج مشرق وسطیٰ پہنچیں گے دورے کی کامیابی کے امکانات کم ہیں۔ شہزادہ آج مشرق وسطیٰ پہنچیں گے دورے کی کامیابی کے امکانات کم ہیں۔

افغانستان کے مسئلے پر اختلافات کے پس منظر میں امریکہ کے نائب وزیر خارجہ کا پاکستان کا دورہ

اسلام آباد - ۲۴ فروری (رٹن) - امریکی نائب وزیر خارجہ کا پاکستان کا دورہ کیا۔ انہوں نے افغانستان کے مسئلے پر اختلافات کے پس منظر میں امریکہ کے نائب وزیر خارجہ کا پاکستان کا دورہ کیا۔ انہوں نے افغانستان کے مسئلے پر اختلافات کے پس منظر میں امریکہ کے نائب وزیر خارجہ کا پاکستان کا دورہ کیا۔

مقبوضہ عرب علاقوں میں احتجاجی ہڑتالیں برسرِ انداز

غزہ میں غزہ کی پٹی میں احتجاجی ہڑتالیں برسرِ انداز۔ غزہ میں غزہ کی پٹی میں احتجاجی ہڑتالیں برسرِ انداز۔ غزہ میں غزہ کی پٹی میں احتجاجی ہڑتالیں برسرِ انداز۔

پاک خانیہ میں ختمینہ کے مجرمین ایک پاکستانی کو پکڑنے کی کوشش کی گئی

پاک خانیہ میں ختمینہ کے مجرمین ایک پاکستانی کو پکڑنے کی کوشش کی گئی۔ پاک خانیہ میں ختمینہ کے مجرمین ایک پاکستانی کو پکڑنے کی کوشش کی گئی۔ پاک خانیہ میں ختمینہ کے مجرمین ایک پاکستانی کو پکڑنے کی کوشش کی گئی۔

کویت کے ۲۴ ویں قومی دن پر ہم کویت کی حکومت اور عوام کو ملی مبارکباد پیش کرتے ہیں

کویت کے ۲۴ ویں قومی دن پر ہم کویت کی حکومت اور عوام کو ملی مبارکباد پیش کرتے ہیں۔ کویت کے ۲۴ ویں قومی دن پر ہم کویت کی حکومت اور عوام کو ملی مبارکباد پیش کرتے ہیں۔ کویت کے ۲۴ ویں قومی دن پر ہم کویت کی حکومت اور عوام کو ملی مبارکباد پیش کرتے ہیں۔

سینیل میں امریکی فضائی طیاروں پر انتہائی شدید طعنہ

سینیل میں امریکی فضائی طیاروں پر انتہائی شدید طعنہ۔ سینیل میں امریکی فضائی طیاروں پر انتہائی شدید طعنہ۔ سینیل میں امریکی فضائی طیاروں پر انتہائی شدید طعنہ۔

عراقی شہر پر ایرانی حملوں میں ایک شہری ہلاک

عراقی شہر پر ایرانی حملوں میں ایک شہری ہلاک۔ عراقی شہر پر ایرانی حملوں میں ایک شہری ہلاک۔ عراقی شہر پر ایرانی حملوں میں ایک شہری ہلاک۔

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Wilkins lifts Knicks to victory

NEW YORK, Feb. 24, (AP) — Gerald Wilkins' three-point play with a 44 seconds left last night lifted the New York Knicks to their 10th consecutive home victory, 89-87 over the Milwaukee Bucks.

Kenny Walker led the Knicks with 21 points and Wilkins finished with 15. Terry Cummings had 21 points for Milwaukee, which had won its four previous games.

Trail Blazers 114, Nets 102
Clyde Drexler scored 29 points and ignited a 12-point run late in the third quarter as the Portland Trail Blazers defeated the New Jersey Nets 114-102.

The loss was the fourth straight for the Nets and came just hours after the team learned their second-leading scorer, Orlando Woolridge, had told the NBA he had a drug problem had to undergo rehabilitation.

Hawks 131, Pacers 111
Dominique Wilkins scored 43 points and combined with Antoine Carr to lead a second-quarter surge as the Atlanta Hawks coasted past Indiana 131-111, ending the Pacers' seven-game winning streak.

Wilkins scored 15 points and Carr 13 in the second quarter, when the two Hawks forwards dominated the middle and boosted Atlanta to a 13-point lead.

Bulls 104, Supersonics 97 (OT)
Michael Jordan scored 39 points, including six in overtime as the Chicago Bulls beat the Seattle Supersonics 104-97.

Seattle's Xavier McDaniel sent the game into overtime with a 35-foot, 2-point shot with one second left in the fourth quarter that tied it at 95.

Brad Sellers had 24 points for Chicago. Dale Ellis scored 34 for Seattle.

Lakers 111, Bullets 100
Los Angeles extended its winning streak to eight as James Worthy scored 23 points against Washington. Jeff Malone scored 26 points for the Bullets.

Washington led 23-18 after one quarter, getting eight points from Terry Catledge, while the Lakers missed 16 of their 22 shots in the period. The Lakers led 47-45 at halftime, then took control of the game with an 11-2 run late in the third quarter, giving them a 74-61 lead.

Pistons 121, Kings 105
Detroit handed Sacramento its fourth straight loss as Isiah Thomas had 26 points and 11 assists. The Pistons shot 78.3 per cent from the field while outscoring the Kings 37-22 in the third period. The Detroit took a 95-74 lead into the fourth quarter.

Dennis Rodman added 20 points and 13 rebounds for the Pistons, while Mike McGee led Sacramento with 29 points.

Phinney captures first leg of cycling
JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Feb. 24, (AP) — Davis Phinney of Boulder, Colorado, outsped a pack of 88 bicycle racers yesterday to capture a 102-mile (164-kilometre) leg of the tour of the Americas Super Series and take over the lead in the seven-stage event.

Phinney beat Greg Lemond of Minneapolis by several lengths with a time of three hours, 56 minutes, 45 seconds. The course involved 22 laps around a 4.6-mile (7.4-kilometre) circuit in downtown Jacksonville.

"It was a sprinter's race," said Phinney, 28.

The event began with three days of racing in Venezuela from Friday through Sunday. Jesper Worne of Denmark was in first place after that portion of the competition but finished 18th yesterday and fell to fifth in the overall standings.

Lemond, the 1986 Tour de France winner, is second overall. He's coming back from an injury-plagued season in 1987.

"I am sprinting better than I thought I would," he said. "I am racing now as well as I have ever raced at this time of the year. I should have no problems this year."

Running a close third yesterday was Marnix Lamiere of Belgium, who is fourth overall.

A crash on a bridge sent a Venezuelan rider, Jose Liodarte, to Baptist Hospital, where he was treated for facial cuts and released.

The event resumes today in Orlando and concludes Sunday in the Miami suburb of Coconut Grove, Florida. A \$150,000 purse will be divided among the top 40 finishers.

SEEDED PLAYERS KNOCKED OUT IN US PRO INDOOR TENNIS

Mayotte fights off Shiras challenge

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 24, (AP) — Second-seeded Tim Mayotte of the United States fought off compatriot Leif Shiras 6-4, 6-4 last night after four other top-seeded players fell in the \$600,000 US Pro Indoor tennis championships.

Mayotte, the defending champion, slammed his racket on the court after a backhand shot by Shiras fell in bounds to give Shiras a 2-0 lead in the second set. Shiras extended his lead to 3-0 in the third set. Mayotte came back to win six of the next seven games.

Upsets
Shiras was one of six players who qualified for the US Pro Indoor during a tournament on Saturday and Sunday. The sole remaining qualifier, Peter Lindgren of Sweden, scored one of the day's upsets by beating fourth-seeded Eduardo Bengoechea of Argentina 6-1, 6-0.

Joey Rive upset third-seeded fellow American Eliot Teltscher 4-6, 6-2, 6-3. Jorge Lozano of Mexico scored his second upset in as many days by eliminating fifth-seeded Amos Mansdorf of Israel 7-6 (7-5), 7-6 (7-2), and Marty Davis won two tie-breakers to overcome seventh-seeded Peter Lundgren of Sweden, 7-6 (7-1), 5-7, 7-6 (7-2).

The tournament's sixth seed, Christo Van Rensburg of South Africa, won a tie-breaker on the third set point to beat American Aaron Krickstein, and 11th-seeded Paul Annacone defeated fellow American Scott Davis 6-1, 3-6, 6-2.

No. 1 seed Ivan Lendl was not scheduled to play a singles match until tonight.

Key games
Rive won two key games in the third set when he came from 0-40 to break through Teltscher's service for a 3-1 lead.

He then recovered from a 30-40 deficit on his own service to go ahead 4-1, winning with a serve that pulled Teltscher off the court wide to the left. Teltscher replied with a short shot, and Rive ran up to cut it off with a volley to the left out of Teltscher's reach.

In the final game, Rive served two aces, giving him one for the match. He won match point with an overhead smash.

After upsetting Wally Masur of the United States on Monday, Lozano won 15 straight points in his last set yesterday against Mansdorf and served three love games.

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Navratilova and Shriver post convincing wins

FAIRFAX, Va., Feb. 24, (AP) — Martina Navratilova and Pam Shriver posted convincing victories over unseeded foes yesterday to advance to the second round of the \$300,000 Virginia Slims of Washington tennis tournament.

Navratilova, the top seed, dominated Austria's Judith Wiesner in a 6-2, 6-3 triumph, and Shriver, the No. 2 seed, fired eight aces in beating Nicole Provis, 6-0, 6-4.

In the only other match involving a seeded player, Zina Garrison combined an aggressive out game with a steady serve to eliminate an ailing Isabelle Demongeot.

Lost
Navratilova, trying for her third straight tournament title, lost service twice — 0-40 the first and last times she served in the match. In between, however, she lost only four points on her serve in cruising to her 16th victory in 17 matches this year.

Wiesner kept pace early in the second set, but Navratilova got the only break she needed in the fifth game to swing momentum back her way.

Navratilova, ranked No. 2 in the world, is vying for her ninth tournament victory at this stop, on the tour.

Shriver, meanwhile, lost only seven points in the opening set and held a 5-1 lead in the final set before allowing Provis to rally back.

Up 5-4, Shriver served three aces in the final game to end the 55-minute match against the 18-year-old Australian.

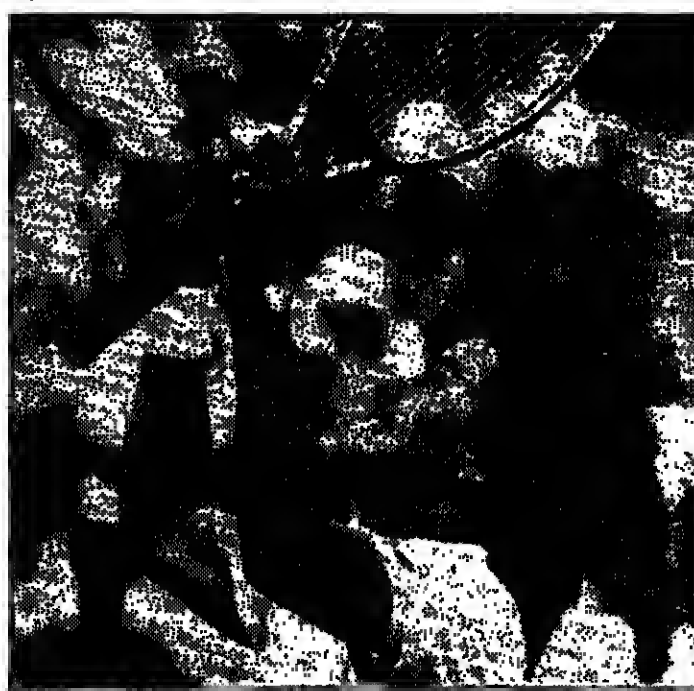
"It got a little complicated in the second set, but that sometimes happens when you get out to a quick start," said Shriver, ranked No. 4. "I wouldn't have had a complaint in the world if I'd have gotten off the court when I should have."

Garrison, the sixth seed, was about to receive serve at match point when France's Demongeot clutched her stomach in pain and walked off the court. Garrison held a 6-2, 5-0 lead when Demongeot retired.

Fighting
Demongeot, who had been fighting the flu over the past four days, said she was out of breath at the end and simply could not continue.

It was the second match of the day halted by retirement, and a third was altered due to illness. Ann Henricksson retired with lower back and groin injuries while trailing Robin White, 6-2, 2-0, and Terry Phelps beat Peanut Harper, a last-minute replacement for Eva Pfaff, 6-3, 6-2.

Garrison, who held service throughout the match, was on the verge of winning her eighth straight game when Demongeot stepped off the court.



Shriver, jubilant, replacement for Eva Pfaff, 6-3, 6-2.

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Holyfield to fight DeLeon for cruiser title

NEW YORK, Feb. 24, (Reuter) — Americo Evander Holyfield will fight Carlos DeLeon of Puerto Rico for the undisputed cruiserweight championship on April 9 in Las Vegas, the promoters announced today.

But whether boxing's three major sanctioning bodies go along remains to be seen.

The promoters, Don King and main events monitor, announced that to accommodate Holyfield they had changed the 190-pound (86 kg) cruiserweight limit to 195 pounds (88 kg) for the 12-round fight without approval of the sanctioning bodies.

Titles
Holyfield owns the World Boxing Association (WBA) and International Boxing Federation (IBF) titles, while DeLeon is the World Boxing Council (WBC) champion.

"We could live with 12 rounds, but five rounds over we can not," IBF president Bob Lee said. "I don't see how we can sanction at that weight."

"It's an over-the-weight fight and it is pretty difficult for it to be for our title at that weight."

The IBF title distance is 15 rounds. The WBA and WBC have 12-round limits.

WBA lawyer James Binns said he would meet WBA President Gilberto Mendoza this weekend to discuss the weight issue.

In Mexico City, WBC executive secretary Eduardo Lamazon told Reuters: "We will try to do something. What we have here in our relations with the WBA and the IBF is a five-round difference. We will try to straighten everything out."

Holyfield plans to move up to the heavyweight ranks and challenge undisputed champion Mike Tyson next year. The 195-pound (88 kg) weight limit is seen as a step to his bid to become a full-fledged heavyweight.

"If I fought Tyson today I would win" the 1984 Olympic bronze medalist said. "I have the motivation and the style to beat Tyson."

"But I am not going to jump right into the heavyweight ranks. It will be a graduated move."

The 25-year-old Holyfield has a 17-0 record with 13 knockouts. In his 12th professional fight on July 20, 1986 he won the WBA junior heavyweight title with a 15-round points decision over two-time American champion Dwight Muhammad Qawi.

Al Seyassah & Arab Times Advertisements Dept convey their heartfelt condolences to

Mr Mohammad Farooq Awan and his family, upon the sad demise of his father

Abdul Raouf Awan
on the 23rd of February 1988, in Pakistan.

May Almighty Allah rest his soul in peace
A special gathering will be held on Friday the 26th at the residence of Mohammad Farooq Awan (Farwaniyah) at 3 pm.

KUWAIT OIL COMPANY (K.S.C.) AHMADI — KUWAIT REQUIRES

INSPECTION TECHNICIAN

Kuwait Oil Company (K.S.C.) has a vacancy for an inspection technician with a minimum educational requirement of Secondary School Certificate followed by 2 years apprenticeship in mechanical or electrical trade with a minimum of 4 years experience in non-destructive and destructive techniques, preferably in the oil/petrochemical industry. His duties will include inspection work and performing routine tests on plants and equipment within KOC operational areas to detect faults. Candidate is expected to be between 25-30 years of age.

The earnings will not be less than KD3612/- per annum plus a cost of living allowance of KD795/- per annum, other benefits include 42 days paid annual leave, annual return air fares, bachelor accommodation, free dental and medical care and excellent recreational facilities.

Interested applicants are requested to apply within two weeks from the date of this advertisement with full resume, passport copy and 3 photographs to the following address:-

Super Employment Division
Kuwait Oil Company (K.S.C.)
61008, Ahmadi, Kuwait.



Mayotte in action

McNeil rallies to advance

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla., Feb. 24, (Reuter) — Top-seeded American Lori McNeil survived a scare by Catherine Tanvier of France yesterday to advance to the second round of the \$100,000 Oklahoma Tennis tournament.

McNeil, ranked 11th in the world, shook off a sluggish start to down Tanvier 1-6 6-4 6-1.

Third seed Raffaella Reggi also struggled early against unseeded Patricia Hy of Hong Kong. The 22-year-old Italian needed a tiebreak to take the first set, then took control to close out the match 6-4 in the second set.

McNeil was ineffective early as Tanvier beat the American at her own serve and volley game in the first set.

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To His Highness
Sheikh Jaber Al

SPORTS

Watford
beat Port
Vale in
FA Cup

LONDON, Feb 24, (AP): Watford, outplayed for long periods of the match, scored the goals that mattered and beat Third Division Port Vale 2-0 in an English FA Cup fifth round replay last night.

Port Vale, which eliminated Tottenham Hotspur in the previous round and had the better of last Saturday's 0-0 draw against Watford, was punished in the replay for poor finishing as the first division hosts booked their place in the quarterfinals.

After a bright start by Vale, Watford took the lead after six minutes with a goal by Trevor Senior. But the visitors kept attacking and Tony Coton in the Watford goal had to make a number of smart saves.

Early in the second half, Coton was beaten but the ball crashed against the Watford crossbar and rebounded into play. The First Division side wrapped up victory in the 58th minute with a Gary Porter volley to set up a quarterfinal tie at Wembley.

In an English First Division game, Tottenham Hotspur and Manchester United drew 1-1.

Results

English Football Association (FA) Cup fifth round replay:		
Watford	2	Port Vale 0
(Winners away to Wembley in quarterfinals)		
Division One:		
Tottenham	1	Manchester U. 1
Division Two:		
Stoke	2	Leeds 1
Scottish FA Cup fourth round replay:		
Partick	4	Clydebank 1
(Winners at home to Celtic or Hibernian)		
English Division Three:		
Aldershot	0	Nottingham 2
Brentford	0	Grimsey 2
Walsall	3	Blackpool 2
Division Four:		
Hullfild	2	Wrexham 0
Torquay	0	Wolverhampton 0
Scottish Division Two:		
Berwick	1	Alloa 2
Montrose	0	St Johnstone 1

SOVIETS WIN ICE DANCING CROWN

Nykanen makes Olympic history by winning third gold

CALGARY, Canada, Feb 24, (UPI): Matti Nykanen made Olympic history yesterday by winning the third Olympic gold medal of his career, only to be outclassed as crowd favourite by the man who finished dead last.

The 24-year-old "Flying Finn" won the 90-metre ski jump event by an overwhelming margin to take his second gold medal of these Games and become the most successful ski jumper in the 64 years since the Winter Olympics began.

Performance

His performance came on a day when crisp, calm weather helped relieve a chaotic backlog of events. For the first time since the opening ceremonies, organisers could brag that every competition scheduled during the day came off as planned.

Nykanen claimed a gold and silver medal four years ago in Sarajevo and won a gold last

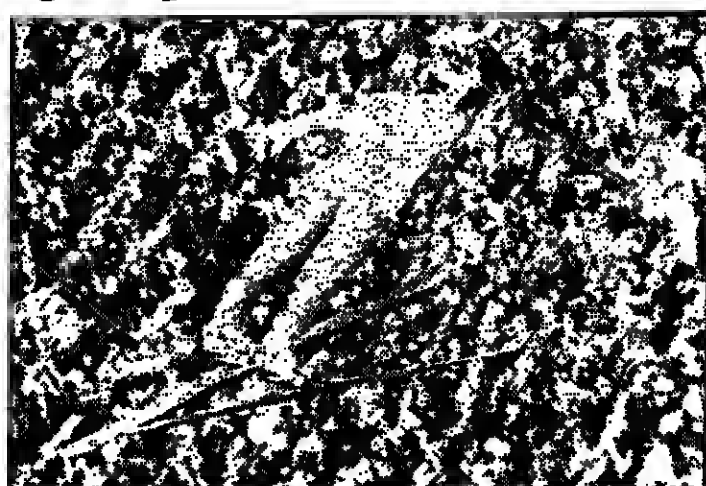
week in the 70-metre ski jump event. He has a chance for another medal later this week in the team jumping competition.

The 80,000 people who jammed into the ski jumping site, however, saved their biggest cheer for Michael "Eddie" Edwards, who during his stay in Calgary has provided Olympic comic relief and become one of the Games' most publicised competitors because he is so bad.

"That's fine," Nykanen said. "We need some clowns in this business."

Edwards finished last — as expected — in a 55-man field. His best jump was 47 metres shorter than that of Nykanen.

Nykanen was joined as a gold medalist yesterday by East Ger-



Nykanen flies past the crowd. (Reuter wirephoto)

man Frank-Peter Roetsch, who won the 10-kilometre speedskating event and the Soviet ice dancing pair of Natalia Bestemianova and Andrei Bukin. The ice dancing title ran the Soviet gold total

to eight with 22 medals overall. East Germany has seven gold and 17 total medals.

Van Gennip became the second speedskater in a many nights to disrupt the East Ger-

man domination of the women's races. In Sarajevo four years ago, East Germany won the gold and silver medals in all five women's races.

American Bonnie Blair beat her East German rivals on Monday night and Van Gennip skated a world record 4:11.94 last night to down Andrea Ehrig and Gabi Zange, both from East Germany and both with times under the previous world mark.

"It was important I beat the East Germans in the Olympics," Van Gennip said. "The East Germans have said when they stop, I could be the next best skater. That was not so nice, so I tried to beat them before I stop."

Ice dancing

Bestemianova and Bukin inherited the ice dancing Olympic crown won by Britain's Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean, but could not match the perfect marks achieved by that

duo. Only three judges gave Bestemianova and Bukin a perfect "6.0" for artistic impression.

Another Soviet pair, three-time world silver medalists Marina Klimova and Sergei Ponomarenko, finished second and Canadians Tracy Wilson and Robert McCall were third.

Roetsch and Nykanen joined Swedish distance speedskater Tomas Gustafson as double-gold champions of these Olympics. Roetsch won the 20-kilometre biathlon event on Saturday.

The Swiss women Alpine skiers will be hoping to salvage their reputation in the giant slalom at Mount Allan.

The much-vaunted Swiss have failed to win any of the three women's events to date. West German Marina Kiehl taking the downhill and Austrians Anita Wachter and Sigrid Wolf winning the combined and super-



Soviet ice dancers Bestemianova and her partner Bukin in action. (Reuter wirephoto)

giant slalom respectively. That long-awaited success could come today through 23-year-old world champion Veronika Schneider.

Kuwait champions ready for battle

DUBAI: Kuwait champions Ahmed Al Helal and Fahed Al Rashid take their place this afternoon in one of the strongest ever fields for the Masafi 4WD Rally.

The two Kuwait Air Force officers are among 35 crews heading for 24 hours of virtual non-stop action across 1,000-km of rain-lashed Dubai desert.

Hoping to celebrate Kuwait's National Day with a high finish, Al Helal will make a cautious start in his Team Citizen-Mitsubishi Pajero, which will carry Kuwaiti national flags on both wings.

"First of all I'm going to do my best to finish the rally, and if everything goes well I will then try to keep up with the leaders," said the talented 33-year-old driver last night. "There has been a lot of rain here and the route is difficult in places, but I don't see any real problems in getting through."

Competing in the event for the

first time, Al Helal and Al Rashid are at a distinct disadvantage to the rest of UAE crews who will be making the most of their local knowledge.

But the two Kuwaitis have tremendous determination, as they proved with their performance in the 1984 Rothmans Pharaoh's Rally which will long be remembered as one of the most remarkable in the history of ten-day, 4,000-kilometre marathons.

Taking an almost standard Range Rover overland across Saudi Arabia via Port Said to Cairo, and carrying all spares in the car, they were lying an incredible eighth overall on the ninth and penultimate day when a broken axle put them out of the rally.

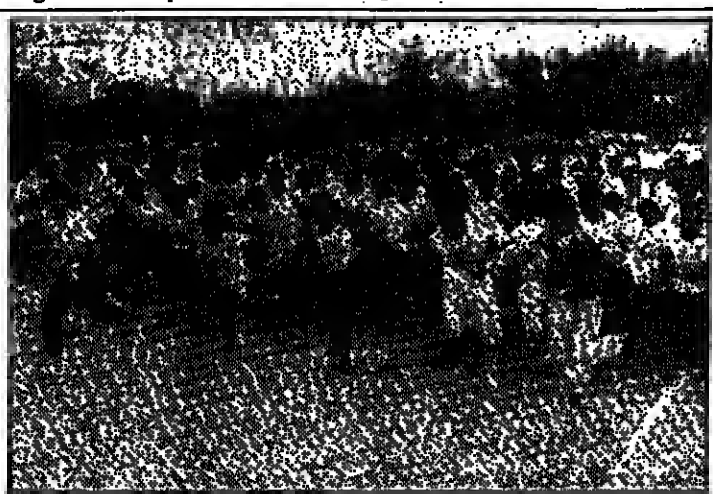
Last year's Masafi winner, UAE star Ahmed Khalifa, sets off first in Dubai this afternoon in his Land Rover knowing he will be under pressure

immediately from Middle East champion Mohammed Bin Sulayem and a small army of other desert specialists.

Although there are fewer contenders this time from outside the UAE, most of the 35 starters have considerable local knowledge of the route, none more so than Masafi veteran Abdullah Omar, who heads the challenge of the powerful four-vehicle Team Citizen-Mitsubishi.

"Abdullah is a very intelligent and capable driver, and his Masafi experience will be a great help to the whole team," said a Mitsubishi spokesman.

Twice-Middle East champion, Saeed Al Hajri from Qatar, will be relying on natural ability and his navigator cousin Muharak to help him through his first Masafi. Al Hajri, driving another Mitsubishi Pajero, has also been hardened by appearances in the Pharaoh's Rally, which he won in 1985.



The Electricity and Water Ministry marathon race was held yesterday and attracted a large number of runners including handicapped persons. The race began at 3.30 pm from the Masafah Beach Hotel and ended at the Bneid Al Qar Sea Club. Picture at right shows some of the handicapped participants on wheelchairs, and picture at left shows some of the able-bodied youths taking part in the race.



New Zealand's hopes get double blow

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Feb 24, (Reuter): New Zealand's hopes of winning the second Test against England received a double blow when all-rounder Richard Hadlee and in-form batsman Andrew Jones withdrew from the side today.

Hadlee has not recovered from a calf muscle injury suffered on the opening day of the drawn first Test in Christchurch and Jones, who sustained a hair-line fracture of the wrist from a ball from Graham Dilley, also failed a fitness test.

Frustrating

It will be the first time for more than a decade that New Zealand have gone into a home Test without Hadlee, again frustrating his hopes of taking his 374th Test wicket to improve on the world record he currently shares with Ian Botham.

Hadlee had undergone ultrasound treatment, acupuncture and physiotherapy in a desperate attempt to get fit for the Test which begins tomorrow.

New Zealand have brought medium pacer Willie Watson onto their 12 and he, or Ken Rutherford, is likely to be named

12th man. The one piece of good news from the home side was the announcement that medium pace bowler Ewen Chatfield has recovered from a hamstring injury.

England made two changes to the 12 named for the first Test, batsman Bill Athey and fast bowler Philip DeFreitas losing their places to Neil Fairbrother and Neil Radford.

Spilled

Athey had two failures in the last match against the President's XI in Dunedin to add to his two in Christchurch and he also spilled four catches there.

Radford was the pick of the bowlers in Dunedin, making good use of the conditions, while DeFreitas sprayed the ball everywhere.

Auckland's Eden Park pitch does not favour pace bowlers and England are likely to play both their off-spinners, John Emburey and Eddie Hemmings, with Paul Jarvis being asked to carry the drinks.

New Zealand have yet to decide who will bat in Jones' slot at number three. Rutherford has been used extensively as an

opener, with conspicuous failure, and he has often stated his desire to bat lower down.

Debutant

It may be left to debutant Mark Greatbatch, if he is chosen for the final eleven, to fill the hole left by Jones.

Jones has been the big success of the New Zealand season, averaging more than 50 in the Test series in Australia and continuing the same form in Christchurch.

New Zealand officials have turned down a request by England tour manager Peter Lush that pitch microphones be banned following the swearing incident involving Graham Dilley in the first Test.

New Zealand Cricket Council chairman Bob Vance said television officials had given assurances that the microphones would be turned down after batsmen had played a shot.

Teams

ENGLAND: Chris Broad, Martyn Moxon, Tim Robinson, Mike Gatting (captain), Neil Fairbrother, David Capel, John Emburey, Bruce French, Paul Jarvis, Neil Radford, Eddie



Hadlee Hemmings, Graham Dilley, John Wright, Trevor Franklin, Mark Greatbatch, Martin Crowe, Jeff Crowe (captain), Ken Rutherford, John Bracewell, Ian Smith, Martin Snedden, Willie Watson, Danny Morrison, Ewen Chatfield.

Kisr and Gulf Bank meet in friendly

HAVING a day off from research work, some of Kisr's staff took up the field at NC Grounds on the weekend to play their first ever cricket match against the Gulf Bank Cricket Club, which instead turned into a family picnic.

This festive game was played in a friendly atmosphere but the winning spirit of both the teams gave a hard time to all the participants. Before the start both the teams were introduced by Mustafa Kadri, treasurer of Kisr cricket team to Dr Suri, hon chairman of the Kisr cricket team, other officials and team members.

Opened

Kisr, after winning the toss opted to bat first and opened through Mohan and Arshad. Both the openers playing with a great sense of responsibility took the score to 57 runs before Mohan was bowled by Aijaz after scoring 14 runs which brought the captain Peter to the crease.

At the total of 89, Arshad's

innings came to an end when he was brilliantly held by Azam off Zaheer. Sethi joined Peter and played very entertaining cricket and took the score to 131 before he was caught by D'Costa off Alex.

Sethi's contribution was 33 well-made runs. At the end of the 25th over when the time was called Kisr's total stood at 156 for the loss of 3 wickets.

Haroon and Dr Talat were unbeaten on 6 and 5 runs respectively. Zaheer, Aijaz and Alex took one wicket each for the bankers.

Lost

While replying Gulf Bank lost two early wickets of Peter (0) and Alex (9) but after this disastrous start Remy and Aijaz took full control of the proceeding and punished all the Kisr bowlers at will. Both the players were very aggressive against Kisr's attack playing their shots to all parts of the ground.

At the total of 98 runs Aijaz was finally out when he played on Peter. His knock of 60 runs



Kisr cricket team

was studied with 9 well timed boundaries and two towering sixes. Remy also played an excellent innings of 46 runs with the help of 5 fours and one huge six.

After Remy's departure Azam and D'Costa completed the onslaught and saw the bankers to surpass Kisr's total in the 17th over. Azam and D'Costa were not out on 22 and 14 runs respectively. For Kisr Arshad, Sethi and Peter got one wicket each.

Team

Dr Suri is the chairman of newly formed Kisr cricket team while the other office bearers are Tony Sequeira, (manager), Mustafa Kadri (treasurer), Ceynac Pereira (secretary). Other team members are Peter (captain), Arshad Jamil (v captain), Mohan, Sethi, Cajetan, Frankie, Gopal, Haroon, Dr Talat, Huneid, Lincoln, Murthy, Peter Rodriguez, Rajesh, Riaz, Steve and Rosario.

Konkani Seven lift BOC trophy

IN the third annual BOC Seven-A-Side football tournament held at Sour grounds on February 19, Konkani Seven beat Navelim by 4-0 to lift the D'Lima Cup. Both the teams relied heavily on their defence and moved very cautiously in the first half.

In the 7th minute, Agnelo Correia of Konkani Seven hit a power packed shot that went zooming into the Navelim net, giving their goalkeeper Avelino no chance to do anything to halt it. That was the only goal of the first half.

Dominating

The second half saw the Navelim boys slowly dominating the game. But their defender Angelo made the silly mistake of not clearing the ball first time, instead, opting to dribble near his own goal.

Peter Correia, in no mood to be generous on such an occasion, calmly took the ball from Angelo and hit it straight into the Navelim goal.

In the 22nd minute, Peter again printed his name on the scoreboard when he deftly connected with an excellent through pass from Swamy to score his second goal of the match. Peter went on to complete his hat-trick and the game's scoreline in the dying minutes of the game.

In all, 16 teams vied with each other to win the D'Lima Cup. Joe D'Souza, the general secretary of Boys Own Club the organisers, introduced the chief guest, Christian Bulow of Hempel Paints, to the large holiday crowd. Bulow,



Konkani Seven team with their trophies



Runners up Navelim captain with the trophy

in his speech, praised James Figueredo of Konkani Seven for his excellent efforts in the defence and named him the Man of the Match.

The chief guest gave away the

trophies and individual prizes to both the finalists. Gifts were also given to the officiating referee and linesmen who were from the Indian Football Referee's Association.

Ballesteros appears in Los Angeles Open

LOS ANGELES, Feb 24, (AP): Seve Ballesteros, a world citizen of golf, will make the second of only eight appearances in the United States this year when he plays in tomorrow's Los Angeles Open.

As a non-member of the PGA Tour, the Spaniard is only allowed to play in eight American tournaments. That's a rule he doesn't like.

Foreign players must participate in 15 PGA tour events to keep their tour membership. Players who do not meet that requirement are limited to playing in the three major championships — Masters, US Open and PGA — and five other tournaments of the sponsors' choice.

Suspended

Ballesteros met the requirement once, in 1984. But he played in only nine tournaments the next year and was suspended from the Tour for 1986.

"I tried it one year and that is why I know I cannot take it," Ballesteros said. "It is too many tournaments."

He says he would prefer to play 12 US tournaments a year.

"I always believe that nine tournaments (outside of the majors) is better than five," he said. "It would help me, and it would help the sport."

Ballesteros' problem is due more to the global nature of golf. He finds himself with both a financial and personal interest in playing around the world. That means about 14 tournaments a year in Europe, two or more in

Japan, a couple more in some other places plus his US events.

Ballesteros said playing in 15 US tournaments would require 18 weeks a year in this country.

"I would be playing golf the whole year, and that's why it's impossible," he said. "The superstar players cannot play too much because they have a lot of pressure. They have other commitments. We understand that. But we have to be productive of our time, otherwise we get hurt and very easily."

"I would like to see some of the American players go overseas and spend as much as I spend away from Spain. Then, I'd like to hear what they have to say."

But there appears to be little sentiment on the Tour to change the rule to satisfy Ballesteros. The rule was established to protect tournament spots for regular Tour members, especially in the more lucrative tournaments that likely would attract larger numbers of foreigners.

"We have a Tour and all the guys qualified to be a part of it," said Gary McCord, who was a player director on the PGA Tour Tournament Policy Board which established the rule. "They've paid a price to play for a part of \$28 million."

"We need good players like Seve, Ian Woosnam (of Wales) and Bernhard Langer (of West Germany), but we can't let them cherry pick the Tour. We had set up guidelines so they'd have to pay a price, too."

Many of the best foreign

players include Langer, Sandy Lyle of England and Greg Norman of Australia. Ballesteros remains the most outspoken holdout, frequently criticizing the leadership of Deane Beman, PGA tour commissioner.

Bridge

Messila Beach ladies bridge played on Saturday

1. Ann Cox & Dennis Kimber
2. Jamila Akel & Margaret Robb-Whitaker
3. Sonia Baniayan & Ely Lammerts
E/W
1. Nida Khalaf & Jannette Chille
2. Margaret Maynide & Daphne Al Saad
3. Wadad Khoury & Camelia Garguis
Hilton bridge played on Monday

1. Tibb & Doug
2. Sandra Turvey & Alek Kerkji
3. Bonikris & Jadaa
Sheraton ladies bridge on Tuesday

N/S
1. Nabil Akel & Lolli Murtwaite
2. Rita Cassacini & Donna Materny
3. Sonia Baniayan & Randa Sinan
E/W

1. Margaret Maynide & Daphne Al Saad
2. Rita Sarah & Nichole Iskandar
3. Camelia Garguis & Alice Naser
Results of the Sheraton Bridge played on Tuesday

N/S
1. Mohamed Abdel Ghani & Hassan Shalabi
2. Mrs Donna Materny & Hassan Moosad
3. Abdelatif Desail & Ehsan Abbasi
E/W

1. Jankovitch Darke & Vladimir Balinov
2. Alec Kerkji & Stanley Drexler
3. Rana Menon & John Barile
Sheraton Hotel is holding a bridge marathon on Friday at 3.00 p.m.

Jellen takes easy victory

METZ, France, Feb 24, (AP): Eric Jellen of West Germany, ranked 42nd in world listings, defeated compatriot Ricky Osterthun, 6-3, 6-3, in the second round of the \$93,480 Lorrain Open tennis tournament yesterday.

In their second round matches, Australian Brad Drewett defeated Italian Massimiliano Narducci, 6-1, 6-3; Milan Srejber

of Czechoslovakia, ranked 54th, beat Menno Oosting of Holland, 7-5, 7-6; and Eric Winogradsky of France, ranked 134th, defeated countryman compatriot Thibout Kuentz, 6-4, 7-6; and Michiel Schapers of the Netherlands, ranked 62nd, downed Alex Antonitsch of Austria 6-4, 6-3.

Play was to resume today, with the tournament final scheduled for Sunday.

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